

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Yesterday's meeting also discussed a paper from Mr Eric Hammond leader of the electricians' union, in which he apparently argued that less reliance should be placed on coal as a source of electricity in view of the miners' strike.

The Chancellor also gave an exposition on his autumn statement and repeated his hope of being able to make tax cuts of £1.5 billion in the Budget next spring. He emphasized the Government's concern over unemployment.

He said jobs depended on the efficiency of private enterprise, and the general thrust of the autumn statement won the backing of the CBI, whose president, Sir James Cleminson, said that it welcomed the Government's intention to restrict total expenditure to £132 billion.

All 23,000 white-collar civil servants in Ulster will be asked which primary school or schools they attended - a reliable indication in Northern Ireland whether one is Protestant or Roman Catholic.

Mr Hart said that the NUT had staged an extraordinary exhibition in seeking to prevent people from exercising their right to speak as members of the working party. The union had done a grave disservice to the teaching profession, he said.



Receiver wa

Waits for Dublin

Any attempt by the receiver of the National Union of Textile Workers' funds to recover the £278 million of assets frozen in the hands of accountants, Price Waterhouse. After the discussions Mr Brewer returned to London empty handed.

lecture yesterday at St. Lawrence
(Photograph: **B**)

Newspaper

Owners of provincial newspapers yesterday abandoned their "Project Breakthrough" campaign to reach a national

s' technology p
by Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Three members of the Satan's Slaves gang were found guilty of riotous assembly and assault.

Bishop attacks weak Labour

The Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowly, has blamed the present weakness of

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The price controls have been increasingly seen as an archaic relic of the wartime and postwar

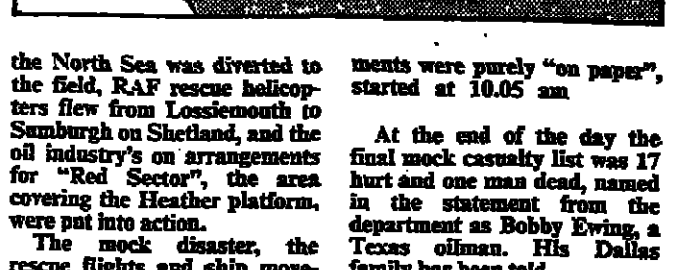
consumption and for manufacture will now be a matter for direct negotiation within the industry.

Year	Shop sales %	Deliveries %
1976	7	93
1978	8	92
1980	10	90
1982	14	86
1984	16	84

Announcing the inquiry, N. Clarke said: "I am becoming increasingly concerned that the small minority of dentists might be abusing the present situation of being able to charge 'exorbitant' rates."

Queen's promotion
The Queen has decided that from January 1 all Members of the Royal Victorian Order, fourth class, will be promoted to Lieutenants. A member fourth class is equivalent to a holder of the OBE. Fifth class members are equivalent to an MBE. The

Staff at Union Oil's Aberdeen operation centre was given 15 minutes' notice that the training to tackle an incident was being put to a test. Inquiries from callers playing the roles of anxious relatives and national and local press and broadcasters jammed the company's switchboard while a military staff alerted search and rescue services.



Bishop attacks weak Labour

The Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowly, blamed the present weakness

stamps worth £4 million

the Tuesday's Sassoon sale was the fourth and most expensive in the series, making a total of £25m with 24 per cent left unsold.

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Joseph's change of mind saves parents £21m

EDUCATION

There were loud cheers from Conservative backbench MPs when Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the Commons his decision to withdraw the proposal that parents should make a contribution to student's tuition fees.

Labour MPs protested and shouted "Resign!" when he explained that the cost of this concession would be found partly by reductions and economies elsewhere in the education budget.

Mr Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said the Secretary of State had been forced into a humiliating climb-down because the Government was terrified of its own backbenchers.

Sir Keith Joseph said it remained the Government's intention to abolish the minimum award and to increase the level of parental contributions to maintenance for those in the middle and upper reaches of the income scale, though he recognized the concern expressed in the House and elsewhere that the proposed increase was too sharp and the notice given too short.

In his statement, Sir Keith Joseph said that when resources were limited, it was right for those parents who could afford to do so to carry a larger share of the costs of their children's higher education in order to release money for urgent needs elsewhere.

The cost of withdrawing the proposal for parental contributions to tuition fees, on which the Secretary of State for Scotland had similarly decided, was £21 million in England and Wales in 1985-86.

Exceptionally, £10 million would be found by an addition to the public expenditure total. The remaining £11m would be found by savings in his recently announced expenditure programme.

There would be a reduction of £6 million in the addition to the equipment grant for universities in 1985-86 from the £10 million announced earlier to £4 million.

There would be a reduction of £3 million in the amount he had told the chairman of the advisory board for the research councils was a planned addition for science in 1985-86 from £14 million to £11 million.

A number of smaller economies, amounting to £2 million, would include a small increase, than already announced for the Pickup programme, and less for educational research, adult education and the microelectronics programme.

The Government also proposed to consider, and consider widely about, whether a radical change in the student support system, which might include loans, should be made so as better to meet the needs of students and their families while safeguarding the interests of the taxpayer.

I believe (he said) that these proposals meet the two main concerns of the House: first that the increase in parental contribution was too sharp and too sudden, and secondly that the system of student support in the longer term should be reviewed.

Mr Radice said the Secretary of State was still not prepared to set up a wide-ranging and independent review of financial support for all those in higher and further education.

He asked: How can the House have confidence in a Secretary of State who has displayed such incompetence and insensitivity?

We would feel more respect for Conservative backbenchers if they also used their minds on issues which affected far greater numbers. Where is the Tory rebellion on the reduction in the pensioners' heating

allowance, the cuts in regional aid and on unemployment? (Labour cheers)

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party: It will not be lost on the rest of the House that a Conservative backbench rebellion has for the first time been half successful where the interests of the better-off constituents are involved.

He is misunderstanding the position if he thinks the public outcry is about the suddenness of his announcement. It is because it comes on top of a steady erosion of the value of the student grant.

Why is he messing around trying to find £11 million of damaging cuts in other areas of education when the Chancellor of the Exchequer has already said he is keeping £1,500 million in reserve for tax cuts next spring?

Sir Keith Joseph: All the better-off will still be paying more in parental contributions than the average family on the one hand and the announcement today, than they were before.

The question of arriving at the optimum balance between students and the Government is a long one and taxpayers on the other will be at the heart of the review that has been announced. As for the £11 million cuts, they are reductions in increases and will leave substantial increases for the science budget.

Sir William van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C) said Tory backbenchers had been bothered by the inclusion of fees in the parental contribution arrangements, and that this principle affected not just the better off but also students from far less well off homes than was supposed.

What Sir Keith Joseph has now done (he added) has gone a long way to allay the anxieties of these backbenchers.

Mr Radice suggested to his Cabinet colleagues that the lesson was that backbenchers anxious to support the Government must, in such difficult matters, be brought at a planned early stage into consultation? (Conservative cheers)

Sir Keith Joseph: The review and following consultation will give an opportunity for the thorough canvassing of the opinions.

Mr Martin Flanagan (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said Sir Keith Joseph had been kicked into grasshopping from one penny pinching point to another. He was giving public money to the assisted places scheme and cutting education left, right and centre.

Sir William Clark (Croydon South, C) said the statement would be welcomed widely in the country and in the House.

Rather than this being a humiliating defeat for him, Sir Keith Joseph, by agreeing and admitting that his first assessment on student awards needed amendment (he said) showed political courage and political insight, and our benches admire that.

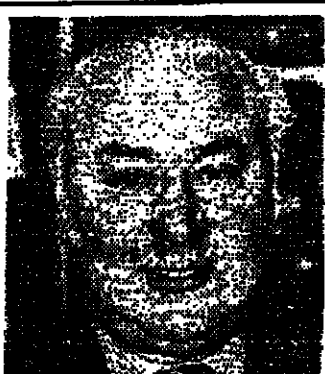
Will he, in his long-term discussions and considerations on student awards, look at the question of the extension of the business loan guarantee scheme for students?

Sir Keith Joseph: We can make sure that suggestion can be taken into account in the review.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab): Labour MPs are not averse to any suggestion of taking notice of what backbenchers think. But many of us are deeply concerned at the suggestion for student loans. Ordinary working class youngsters would not get the chance to go to university because their families could not meet the cost.

If the Government continues with this line of action it will meet with the greatest resistance from all sides of the House, I hope.

Sir Keith Joseph: The idea of partial or total loans instead of grants is one which surely should be considered by the review.



Van Straubenzee: He has allayed anxieties

Experience of our neighbours in north-west Europe shows that a suitably drawn partial or total loans scheme does not seem to have discouraged access to higher education there.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C): Will he assure the House that the position of the 70,000 students taken out of contributions in the package he first announced will be safeguarded? Will he bear in mind adult education has suffered severe cuts already and adult education should have no more cut after this year?

Sir Keith Joseph: Those at the lower end of the income spectrum who were going to benefit by the first proposal of the Government will remain benefited exactly as originally proposed. I would not like the House to get the wrong impression about the diminution of money that may have to be made in the allocation to the adult education programme. It will be, as far as we can tell, of the order of £100,000 a year.

Mr David Wainwright (Walsall North, Lab): A loan scheme would certainly be resisted. There has been a climb down by the Cabinet and he has been listening to his backbenchers, but what he is putting forward as a substitute is no less damaging to education.

Sir Keith Joseph: I think he is wrong. The effect of a loan scheme, whether partial or total, depends on the details with which it is constructed. What the Government is proposing, even after the adjustment, is an improvement in the education and science budgets.

Asked to give more details about the position of middle-income parents, he said: It is possible some individual parents may have to pay as much as £270 a year more.

Sir Bernard Braine (Castle Point, C): It takes great courage to take the course Sir Keith has done today and he should be given credit for it. Nevertheless, will he take a longer and harder look than he appears to be prepared to do?

Investment in minds is the finest investment we can ever make in the future, but many of us are dubious about some forms of expenditure on research.

Would he take a close look at some of the unethical research that is taking place in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Medical Research Council?

Sir Keith Joseph: That is a point with which large number of people would strongly agree. But this Government, like previous Governments, has given autonomy to the research councils to make the decisions themselves on such matters.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): His original proposals seemed to me wholly right in principle but possibly somewhat wrong in execution. There are millions of people who voted Conservative whose incomes are nothing like £19,000 a year. If we are a national party, surely it is our duty to look after all classes, not just the middle bands?

If we are to control Government expenditure must we back down because we have a few letters from our constituents?

Sir Keith Joseph: I agree very much with the first part of what Mr Stokes says. It is an important question, deciding how much the taxpayer should contribute to the expensive education costs of students who, though they are almost certainly going to benefit the public, are good luck to them going to benefit themselves.

February 15: Unborn Children (Protection) Bill to make provision relating to human embryos produced by *in vitro* fertilisation. (Mr Enoch Powell, South Down, OUP).

Northern Ireland (Termination of Jurisdiction) Bill to make provision with respect to the termination of Her Majesty's jurisdiction in Northern Ireland; and for purposes connected therewith. (Mr Ernest Roberts, Hackney North and Stoke Newington, Lab).

Charter Trustees Bill to provide for the continuation of the charter trustees of any city or town and for the preservation of their powers and of the privileges and rights of the inhabitants of their area upon that area becoming compromised in a borough. (Mr Charles Morrison, Devizes, C).

MPs set out their legislative ambitions

BACKBENCH BILLS

The following private members' Bills were formally introduced and set down for second reading on the Fridays indicated:

JANUARY 18
Intoxicating Substances (Supply) Bill to prohibit the supply to persons under the age of eighteen of certain substances which may cause intoxication if inhaled. (Mr Neville Trotter, Tynesmouth, C).

Small Business Bill to make further provision for, and to amend the law relating to, small businesses. (Mr Geoffrey Gyles, North West Surrey, C).

Fabric Origin Marking Bill to require the indication of country of origin for woven fabrics in outerwear textile products. (Mr Geoffrey Lawler, Bradford North, C).

Road Traffic (Production of Documents) Bill to amend certain provisions relating to the production of documents under the Road Traffic Act 1972. (Mr Timothy Smith, Beaconsfield, C).

Motor-Cycle Crash Helmets (Restriction of Liability) Bill to exempt persons other than the actual offender from criminal liability in respect of the offences of driving or riding on a motor-cycle in contravention of regulations requiring the wearing of crash helmets. (Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Orpington, C).

JANUARY 25
Sexual Offences Bill to make, in England and Wales, provision for penalising in certain circumstances the soliciting of women for sexual purposes by men.

Offences Against Women (Miscellaneous) Bill to amend the Sexual Offences Act 1956 for certain offences against women. (Miss Janet Cooke, Plymouth Drake, C).

Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill to amend the Sexual Offences Act 1956 for certain offences against women. (Miss Janet Cooke, Plymouth Drake, C).

Facilities Bill to enable the Government to direct public bodies and other owners of recreational facilities to inform them of any proposed sale or change of use of sports fields or facilities. (Mr John Carlisle, Luton North, C).

Local Government (Access to Information) Bill to provide for public access to local authority meetings and documents subject to specified confidentiality provisions and to give local duties to publish certain information. (Mr Robin Squire, Hornchurch, C).

Water Authorities (Meetings) Bill to apply the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, relating to the admission of the press and other members of the public, to meetings of water authorities, and for related purposes. (Mr Gerald Bergham, St Helens South, Lab).

Controlled Drugs (Penalties) Bill to increase the penalties for certain offences relating to controlled drugs within the meaning of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. (Mr Keith Rafan, Delyn, C).

February 8: Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill to amend the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. (Dr David Davies, South Shropshire, C).

Education (School Budgets) Bill to require local education authorities to publish annual certain financial information relating to maintained, aided, and special agreement schools, and to require the governing bodies of aided or special agreement schools to publish accounts of income and expenditure. (Mr David Madel, South West Bedfordshire, C).

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Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Debate on Chancellor's autumn statement. Lords (3): Food and Environment Protection Bill, committee. First day.

Unjust for Greece to use veto

EEC SUMMIT

It would be totally unjust if Greece, which was doing well out of membership of the European Community, and was newly-democratic having known non-democracy, blocked the entry of other newly-established democracies to the EEC.

The Council also urged the environment ministers' meeting, tomorrow (Thursday), to reach agreement on guidelines for the reduction of lead in petrol and on vehicle emissions.

Mr Kinnock said he welcomed news of the grain to be sent to Africa, but asked for more to be sent if the need arose.

Unfortunately (he went on), other consequences of the meeting are much less satisfactory. The Prime Minister has failed to get discipline over the budget that she promised.

The Council on budgetary discipline has no less a task as it sets itself and promised us in June.

He forecast that agriculture spending would go on rising and asked Mrs Thatcher how this could be justified against a background of financial stringency at home.

Mrs Thatcher said the Government could not commit itself to increased aid to Ethiopia at the moment. Other countries had also been active in giving aid.

The agreement on the budgetary discipline was binding on the Council, but it was not being embodied into the Treaty.

Whitehall now more efficient
The reduction in Civil Service numbers since 1979 from 732,000 to 617,000 was saving taxpayers some £700m a year, the Earl of Cower, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said in a debate in the Lords.

More than half of the reduction in numbers had been achieved by improving efficiency, Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C), who opened the debate on the importance of an efficient and dedicated Civil Service, said those who were concerned with its welfare were increasingly conscious that all was not well.

Recruiting the ablest men and women in the universities for the highest grades of the services was increasingly difficult.

The distressing growth of industrial action inside the service undermined the importance of moving into a "no strike" agreement in certain sections important to the community since because of the harm which disruption of them could do to individuals or because of questions of national security and the like.

It might be possible for those who were on "no strike" terms to be distinguished from the rest of the service by having a form of arbitration which, while not wholly and compulsory binding on the government of the day, would be difficult for it to override.

The Earl of Cower said real improvement in performance was being achieved by putting staff into key areas. For example, 160 new posts were being allocated this year and next to strengthen customs controls.

There was a move towards a more dynamic managerial style. That means positively looking for regular improvement in performance and value for money.

Two recent developments supported and fitted into the new approach. One was the experiment under which certain staff would be able to earn a bonus for particularly good performance. The other was the publication of a report on a review of the consultancy, inspection and review capabilities in departments.

Lord Barnett (Lab) said the Government at times seemed to regard a definition of efficiency in the Civil Service as simply cuts in size.

One cannot expect dedication and loyalty (he said) from sullen, cowed staff who are constantly under attack, who then become time-servers and will never give efficiency to their ministers or the state.

Lord Rochester (L) said he welcomed the Government's declaration to match the number of civil service staff more closely to the necessary functions of departments, but he was anxious where the efficient execution of some functions would require more staff. An example was the need to monitor the progress of the increasing numbers of long-term unemployed.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): None of the aid we are sending is reaching areas under the control of the Eritrean and Tigre liberation fronts. There is a tremendous influx of nearly one million refugees into Sudan. That is becoming an intolerable burden.

Will the Government seriously consider sending aid through Sudan to areas controlled by the liberation fronts? There is some indication of the difficulty of getting food and water to those areas.

Mrs Thatcher: I said at Fountainside that we were prepared to accept a Commission of 12. There is not work for 17 Commissioners.

In a later reply she said that Greece had substantial net benefit from membership, benefit which had increased over the past two years.

Greece had 2404 million net receipts in 1983 and 2595 million in 1984, the sharpest rise for any member state, and was the second largest recipient after Italy.

Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C): Apart from the attitude of Greece, it is expected that enlargement will cause particular difficulties? Is it accepted that Greece has veto on enlargement?

Mrs Thatcher: Negotiations will go ahead on wine, fish, and industrial tariffs. We hope they will be completed by March so that the Council can consider it. It would be true that Greece, or any member, would have a veto on enlargement but I hope that we shall be able to point out that it would be totally unjust if Greece, which is doing well out of membership, and is newly democratic and has known non-democracy, blocked the entry of other newly-established democracies.

Conservatives the party of the workers now - minister
In the season of goodwill we are approaching, will the Government show goodwill and get the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) to call the parties to the negotiating table to get an honourable settlement to the NUM or is it their intention to win by attrition?

Mr Stewart: There is a responsibility on striking miners to take into account the interests of their communities and to go back to work.

Mr Hugh Brown (Glasgow, Provand, Lab): Would Mr Stewart ever what I think Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House, said yesterday when he urged the NUM to return to the negotiating table? If so, would he equally instruct the NCB to be a bit more conciliatory?

Mr Stewart: There is a perfectly reasonable basis for a settlement on the terms that have been already accepted by Nacods. I am sure that if there was a basis on that proposition put to the members of the NUM as a whole, it would be accepted.

Mr Gerald Malone (Aberdeen, South, C): The report referred to by Mr Stewart is a report prepared by academics with little experience of the mining industry. It was immediately ripped apart on television by someone who is an expert in that field.

Mr Stewart: As a former academic myself, I often take with a pinch of salt documents produced by academics.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland: The minister's synthetic rage in the last few minutes has made him look a ludicrous figure, like some sort of demented Paddington Bear dancing at the dispatch box.

The Opposition give the strongest possible support to those local authorities in Scotland who have shown concern and compassion for the hardship in their areas. We would welcome a glimmer of humanity on that issue from ministers at the Scottish Office.

Whatever the record in the United Kingdom, the record of investment in Scottish coalfields since 1979 has shown a decline. Will Mr Stewart give a categorical assurance that there are no plans, to the Government's knowledge, to close pits and reduce the workforce on the lines that has been suggested on fairly compelling evidence by the Scottish TUC and other bodies in Scotland?

Mr Stewart: I am not prepared to comment on the status of particular documents that the NUM or the STUC may claim to possess. That is a matter for the NCB.

We all saw Mr Dewar on television in the United Kingdom giving his support to Mr Arthur Scargill. Mr Dewar is simply clutching at straws to hide the extreme embarrassment of himself and some of his colleagues over the conduct of the NUM.

Mr Richard Douglas (Donnafrairie, West, Lab): The minister should agree with the convenor of the STUC Regional Council that there is nothing the regional council has done that has broken the law.

The convenor was perfectly right in saying that no-one in his region will have a hungry belly. It is the intention of the Government to win this strike on the basis of hungry miners' beliefs.

During the time that this Government has been in office, taking 1983-84 prices, there has been less investment in the mining industry in Scotland in 1983-84 than there was in 1979, when the Labour Government was in office.

Mr Stewart: This Government has an outstanding record on investment in coal. It has invested £2 million a day. As for adverse consequences of the strike, there are consequences such as reduced purchases of mining machinery, loss

of incomes for suppliers of goods and services to the mining communities.

However, the recovery in manufacturing output is continuing in Scotland and is up 5 per cent in the first half of 1984 against previous years. On electricity supply, Scotland is in a satisfactory position because of the alternative sources of supply available.

Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab): As he is concerned to bring the strike to an end, why does he not advise the Cabinet to instruct the NCB to go back to the negotiating table at least on negotiating on the true facts about the viability of pits instead of the nonsense they have been talking so far.

This report, marked "confidential" which I have in my hands here, by five accountants including two professors of accountancy, shows clearly that the figures and the facts the NCB have been using so far are untenable. Will he go back to the negotiating table on that basis?

Something has to be done to resolve this crisis, bringing both sides together. What does the Government intend to do, if anything?

Mr Stewart: The people who ought to be facing the facts are Mr Arthur Scargill and his colleagues in the NUM. There is a perfectly reasonable basis for settlement available - the terms offered to and agreed by Nacods, the pit deputies' union.

Mr Barry Henderson (North East Fife, C): One of the most unnecessary costs of the mining dispute is as a result of local authorities' money to support their ratepayers' money to support this cost of operation. This not only affects ratepayers directly but has a cost on businesses which is bound to have an effect on jobs.

Mr Stewart: I entirely agree. I know the answer to this action has been among ratepayers - particularly in Fife.

Mr Alexander Eadie (Midlothian, Lab): Surely he must concede the cost of the miners' strike has been enormous in terms of the economy? The way to resolve that problem is to go back to the negotiating table and negotiate a settlement.

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We can't take away the pain this child has been through. But with your help, we'll do our best to make sure it never happens to her again. For the past hundred years, the NSPCC has been giving aid and comfort to abused children using your donations.

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Last year, over 43,000 children relied on us for help. This year marks our centenary and there's no sign of a significant reduction in the number of children who need help.

Anything you can send will be used to provide help immediately, for example even if you send as little as £5.60 it would help us to protect a child for one week.

When you realise what your money will achieve, you'll find that having your arm twisted doesn't hurt at all.

Yes, I would like to help, and I enclose my cheque or postal order for £..... Access and Visa card holders may debit their accounts. No. BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

After the Dublin summit

Spain and Portugal will have to swallow hard bargain to join the EEC

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The rush is now on to complete negotiations with Spain and Portugal so that they can join the Community, as promised, in 1986. The Dublin summit succeeded in putting together at last a Community position to put to the two countries on all major issues and what is being billed as the last major negotiating session is now due in Brussels at the Foreign Ministers Council on December 17-18.

Between then and now Commission officials will be locked in intense preparations, with experts from Spain and Portugal. The outstanding issues are principally concerned with industrial matters, especially on steel production and tariff levels for imports into Spain.

They will also sound out reactions from the two on the newly-agreed positions on wine, fishing rights and fruit and vegetable production, before the full-scale negotiations at the Council meeting.

The offer falls well below the

minimum expectations of Spain on all these essential sectors, but with time running out both countries are now in a "take-it-or-leave-it" situation. It will be difficult, if not impossible, for Spain and Portugal to succeed at this stage in changing the details of the agreed common position of the Ten, particularly as this has been achieved only with enormous difficulty.

What EEC members have been prepared to offer the would-be members is a transition period of seven years, during which the present members of the club would have increasing access to markets of the new members for their products, while keeping a strict control on products coming the other way.

On fishing rights Spain,

which has the largest fishing fleet in Europe, is offered virtually nothing for eight years, and then only limited access until the turn of the century.

Even if these terms can be accepted, the question of how much money the two countries

should contribute to the EEC budget is still to be negotiated and they will probably be seeking the same kind of special treatment which Britain has won.

All this needs to be worked out in record time if the target date is to be met, and it is here that the political will and commitment of the community to bring the two new democracies into the EEC fold will be tested.

Rumblings in the background

will be the new Greek demand

for more money, raised so

forcibly at the summit by Mr

Papandreu. He still says that

he will block enlargement if he

is not satisfied with what is on

offer by the next summit in

March.

Despite the difficulties the

betting at the moment is that

the negotiations will succeed.

But the entry terms are likely to

be so tight that it seems certain

both countries will start renegotiating

from the very day they join.

Leading article, page 17

Madrid eager to seize chance of completing admission

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain wants, the Dublin summit to expedite its EEC entry negotiations and keep the January 1 1986 accession date.

But it reacted cautiously yesterday to Dublin's clearing the way to the final negotiating rounds. Madrid is worried about the Greek threat of a veto, which might upset the timetable and by the risk that the angry reaction of the southern French wine growers might weaken French nerve.

The Spanish Cabinet met yesterday to consider the strategy it will pursue after it receives the EEC's full negotiating package in Brussels on December 17. Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, speaking before the meeting, made it clear his desire for a final spurt.

"All the world knows that when negotiations are ripe it is much better to conclude them than let such an opportunity slip away and maybe disappear," he said.

There are two reasons for

seeking a quick settlement of

entry terms at Christmas or in the New Year. It is thought in Madrid that if negotiations drag on until the next EEC summit in March, ratification of Spanish and Portuguese entry would reach the Parliaments of the ten only by next summer, and 1986 is election year in several countries.

At home, Señor González wants to avoid pressure from influential sectors of Spain's economy. Spokesmen for the Basque fishing interests and the Valencia citrus fruit growers yesterday expressed fears that this is precisely the Government's tactic and accused it of not defending their interests energetically enough.

On Spain's plans to help reduce the EEC's expected future wine lake, Señor González maintains that this policy is in line with his Government's production and quality controls. But the farmers' organization want to know how the poor quality wine producing regions of Castile and Extremadura will be affected.

Britain and the other members of the EEC are close to agreement with Spain on low-tariff car import quotas, which had been a main concern for British interests. Quotas will rise from the present 15,000 to more than 40,000 by the end of the third year after Spanish accession.

Señor Manuel Marín, Spain's chief EEC negotiator, argues that political arbitration is all that is required in several areas. For instance, he says that if Spanish fruit and vegetable exports are restricted, Spain will restrict EEC dairy products, meat and sugar.

Spain's exporters of orange and lemons are refusing to let their products be lumped with fruit and vegetables for discriminatory treatment to protect French, Italian or Greek produce. The EEC's 28.5 million Ecu aid to restructure the Basque fishing fleet is dismissed as being directed to finishing off the Basque fleet and not helping to modernize it.

What the Ten have decided

By Ian Murray

The European summit in Dublin agreed a wide-ranging final statement covering the following subjects:

● **Economic and social situation:** Support for a consistent economic policy framework for improving supply and demand conditions. The Council of Ministers is to review manpower policy to reorientate training towards sectors of labour shortage and will encourage job mobility and "foster enterprise", especially among the young.

● **The Council is also urged to complete the internal market by removing trade barriers and to harmonize standards. It is also to accelerate measures to give a greater role to the ECU (European Currency Unit) and to develop the European monetary system.**

● **Institutional reform and European union:** The ad hoc committee on institutional affairs, set up in Fontainebleau in June is to report to the Brussels summit in March. The topic will be the main subject for the June summit next year.

There is also to be a report to the March summit of the committee on "a people's Europe", which has been studying ways to make the Community more relevant to its citizens.

● **Environment:** The Council of Ministers is urged to reach agreement on reducing lead in

petrol and on vehicle emissions at their Brussels meeting today. A substantive discussion on environmental issues is planned for March.

● **Budget discipline:** A method to ensure co-operation between the European Parliament, the Commission and Council in controlling Community spending was approved. The Parliament and Commission are to examine ways to define this co-operation. A parliamentary delegation is then to meet the Council each year before it fixes Community spending for the next year.

● **Famine in Africa:** The summit emphasized the urgency of taking concerted international action and agreed that the total to be provided by the Community and member states up to the next harvest should be 1.2 million tonnes. The Commission will monitor contributions by member states to see how much extra will be needed from Community stocks to reach the total.

● **Middle East:** The summit agreed a three-page statement covering the Arab-Israeli conflict, Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq war. There was a renewed call for negotiations for a settlement in all three areas, with a welcome for the United Nations involvement in Lebanon. The Ten repeated their belief that the PLO must be involved in peace negotiations.

● **East-West relations:** A two-page statement on relations between the two superpowers concentrated on the importance of achieving effective arms control and disarmament agreements on both sides, as well as on conventional and chemical weapons. There was a welcome for the New Year meeting between Mr George Shultz and Mr Andrei Gromyko, with the hope this leads to negotiations on strategic nuclear weapons and weapons in space.

● **Central America:** The summit noted with satisfaction the start of a new dialogue between Europe and Central America with the conference in Costa Rica last September, and reaffirmed its belief there can be no solution by armed force to the area's problems.

● **Terrorism:** In a short statement the summit recognized last September's agreement on closer co-operation to fight terrorism and the abuse of diplomatic immunity. It noted "with satisfaction" that these principles were now being applied.

● **Enlargement:** The summit reiterated its "firm political commitment to the accession of Spain and Portugal to the Community on January 1, 1986."

A central method was approved

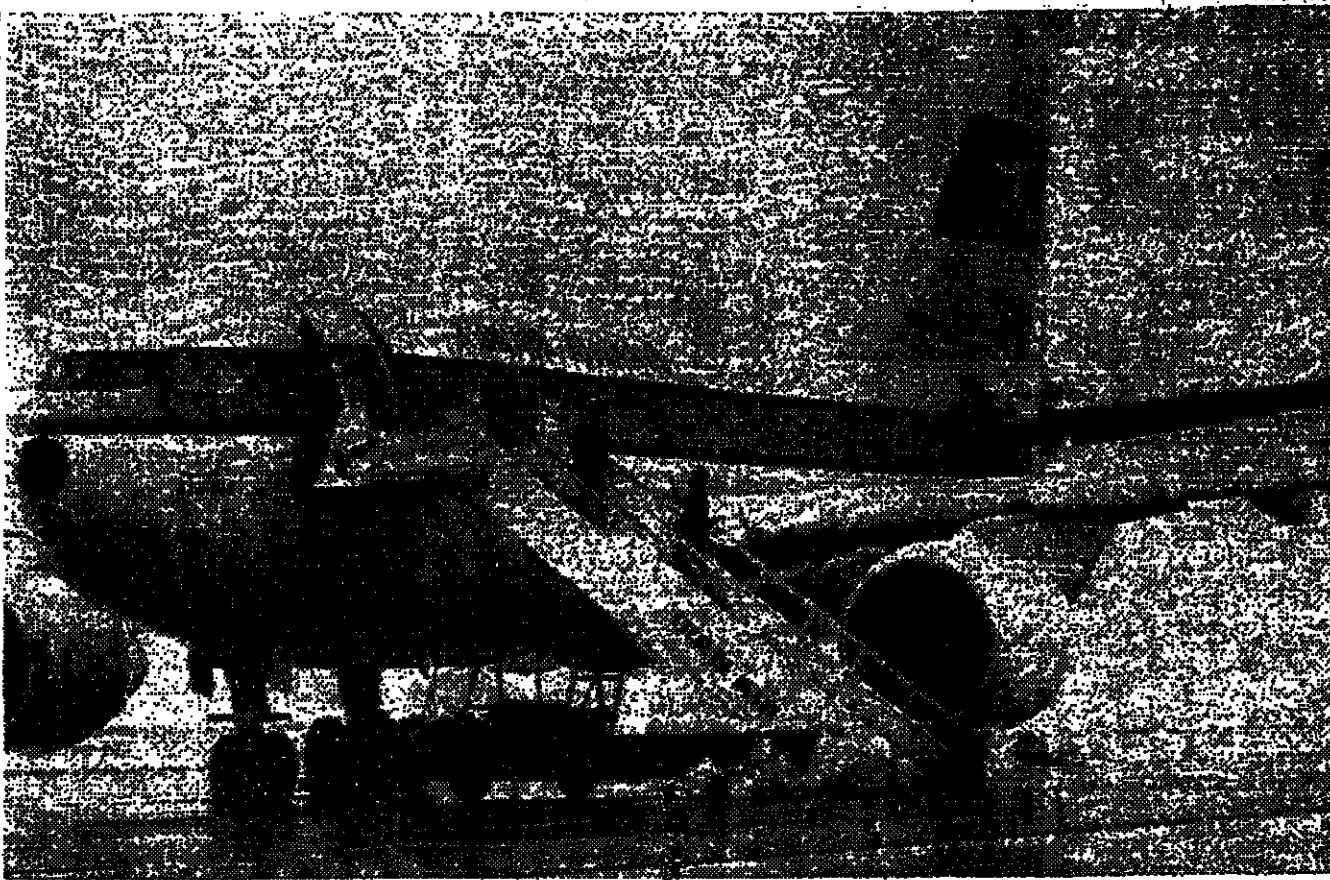
for reorganization of the

common wine market, which

agriculture ministers are

instructed to implement as soon

as possible.



Step-by-step: A hijacker and an Iranian negotiator confronting each other at Tehran airport yesterday as tension mounted. There were threats to blow up the Kuwait Airbus with about 80 hostages on board.

The Indian chemical disaster

Cause of leak still unknown as death toll continues to rise

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Experimental Insecticide Number 7744, born in Union Carbide Corporation's chemical laboratories in the United States in 1956, has been travelling the world ever since under the trade name Sevin, killing and controlling such everyday pests as cockroaches, crickets and the Colorado beetle.

Until last Monday, it had not been considered a risk to humans. As a refined product, it is safe enough. But one of the raw materials of Sevin is methyl isocyanate, the chemical which has killed more than 1,600 people in India.

Methyl isocyanate (MIC) is a very active organic chemical. Highly volatile, with a low boiling point, it vaporizes when exposed to the air.

Inhaled, it attacks the tissue of the lungs. It attacks protein molecules, such as haemoglobin, the oxygen carriers in the red blood cells. In effect, it deprives the body of oxygen.

The makers and users of MIC never doubted its potential deadliness. "We have been very much aware of the hazards of MIC. If we hadn't, we wouldn't have been able to make it safely and without problems for over 20 years," David Gilbey, spokesman for Union Carbide's British branch at Harrogate, said.

He added: "We don't know exactly what caused that leak at our plant in India, and we won't know until our engineers have gone through it with a fine toothcomb."

Mr Alan Sutton, works services manager of the Ciba Geigy chemicals factory near Grimsby, said: "The hazards associated with the use of MIC are fully recognized and care-

Deadly chemical stored in Britain

About 1,800 gallons of the deadly chemical methyl isocyanate are in storage at the Ciba Geigy Chemicals factory on the Humber bank near Grimsby, it was disclosed yesterday. The chemical is stored in 40 sealed drums each containing 45 gallons two miles from the centre of Grimsby and less than a mile from the nearest houses. In India, the chemical was stored under pressure.

fully regulated in the UK. We use it in accordance with a specific set of safety procedures which are extremely strict for all our manufacturing processes.

"The local emergency services and the Health and Safety Executive are aware that we use MIC."

Dr Werner Dittes, managing director, said: "Despite the rigorous safety measures already in force at our plant, we are in no way complacent about our operations here. It is our normal practice to review our procedures in the light of incidents elsewhere, and we are already doing this following the tragic events in India."

Methyl isocyanate is not manufactured at Grimsby, but used in comparatively small quantities to produce a chemical used in weedkillers.

In the manufacture of pesticides such as Sevin, MIC reacts with isophthalol to become a white crystal, which is marketed as a pesticide either as a liquid, a powder, or pellets.

The production of MIC itself is carried out under rigorously controlled conditions at Union Carbide's factory at the town of Institute, West Virginia. The

Bhopal plant in India is said to be very similar to that in the United States. The chemical has safety threshold of 0.02 parts per million under British regulations.

Union Carbide said yesterday that it shipped about six tonnes of MIC from the United States to Ciba Geigy at Grimsby, two or three times a year, in stainless steel 200-litre drums. The drums themselves are transported in closed containers, the company said, adding that "there has never been any incident involving Union Carbide's methyl isocyanate in the UK."

The company rejected suggestions yesterday that pesticides which used MIC as a raw material were outdated and tended to be exported to and used only by Third World countries.

Today, the House of Lords will begin a debate on aspects of the Food and Environment Protection Bill, which is partly concerned with the export of dangerous chemicals to the Third World.

Pesticides such as Sevin were produced in the 1950s to cope with the surge in demand for agricultural chemicals, but were overtaken by organochlorines, which were cheap and effective. However, organochlorines were found to be poisonous to wildlife and persistent in soil, and were getting into the food chain. That led to the banning in the early 1970s of such compounds as DDT.

Union Carbide said yesterday, however, that Sevin is commonly used throughout the United States and in such countries as The Soviet Union and Poland. Although also produced in Germany and Israel, such pesticides are little used in Europe, simply because the pests they are intended to exterminate are not a problem.

Athens hit by the bomb jitters

From Mario Modiano Athens

Bomb disposal experts were called to the British Council building in central Athens yesterday to remove a suspicious package left on the doorstep. Although it contained nothing but a harmless pair of shoes, the incident showed how jittery Athens is after the recent spate of bomb explosions and street battles in the city.

An explosives expert lost his life on Monday while defusing a explosive device attached to an Iraqi diplomatic car, and since then the police have taken on chances with suspicious objects. They detonate them. The bomb disposal unit has been working overtime, with some 50 to 60 bomb scares a day.

The riots on Tuesday night by anarchists protesting against the Athens meeting of the European parliament's 16 right-wing deputies led by M Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the French right wing, added to the unease.

Molotov cocktails were hurled at the hotel where the group is meeting, windows and cars were smashed. The rioters occupied the Athens law school and set barricades on fire. Eleven policemen were injured.

Three youths were charged with seditious action and a series of other offences.

Earlier Mr Amur Mabruki, aged 31, a Moroccan passport holder, was charged with attempted murder for last week's attack on the life of a Jordanian diplomat in Athens. Mr Mabruki, who said he was a businessman on holiday in Greece, was arrested at the Greek-Yugoslav frontier. He denied any connection with the attempt.

Habré turns down return of troops

From Our Own Correspondent Paris

President Hissène Habré has refused an offer by France to send back troops into Chad, M. Claude Cheysson, the foreign minister revealed yesterday at the same time as he announced that there were still an estimated 3,000 Libyan troops in the north of the country.

The Chad Government has always insisted that it does not simply want a repeat of the previous purely defensive French force in Chad. "We do not want any half-measures. The French soldiers must not simply return, they must fight," M. Gouara Lassou, the Chad foreign minister, said last month.

Addressing Parliament yesterday, M. Cheysson said that he had refused the return of French soldiers if he believed the Libyans were preparing an attack. The Libyan troops in Chad were "purely defensive," M. Cheysson insisted, adding that if Libya sent in offensive elements, France would "reply with the appropriate means."

Commenting on the Franco-Libyan pact calling for the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops from Chad by November 10, M. Cheysson said that France was still trying to obtain a complete Libyan evacuation. "A signature was ignored, violated, and that is unacceptable," he commented.

France has not given any new deadline for the completion of the Libyan withdrawal. Observers point out, however, that it would be extremely difficult to attend the Franco-African summit in Burundi on December 11 and 12, while Libyan troops remained in Chad.

The 3,000 figure given by M.

Cheysson for the number of

Libyan soldiers now in Chad is

double that given by President

Mitterrand on November 16,

France opts for style change

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The appointment of M. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, to the EEC Commission in Brussels will not involve an immediate Cabinet reshuffle. M. Roland Dumas, the Government spokesman and the man almost certain to succeed M. Cheysson, said at the end of yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

M. Cheysson, who would normally be expected to take up his post in Brussels at the beginning of January, has a number of important foreign engagements over the next couple of weeks, including the Franco-African summit in Burundi on December 11 and 12. Informed sources here nevertheless expect that he will be replaced by M. Dumas before Christmas.

His replacement after three

and a half years in the post is likely to entail a change more of style than of content in France's foreign policy, which has traditionally been kept firmly in the hands of the President.

Although not part of President Mitterrand's inner circle, M. Cheysson has been a totally loyal servant. Many believe, indeed, that his famous "gaffe" was sometimes not so impromptu as they seemed, but were rather flying a kite for M. Mitterrand.

A devoted supporter of Third World causes and a passionate champion of human rights, he believed that the principal threat to world peace was not to be found in East-West relations but in the inequalities between North and South.

He was nevertheless a confirmed

"Atlanticist", and de-

spite his outspoken distaste for the American tendency to push its allies around, threw his weight firmly behind the deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe.

That is one point on which M. Dumas's record seems less sure. It has not been forgotten that he was the only Socialist MP to sign, in June 1982, the "Appeal of the 100" in favour of disarmament, launched by the French Communist Party. But that was before he was appointed Minister for European Affairs in December 1983. He did not sign the appeal this year, and is unlikely to cross swords with M. Mitterrand in future over the issue.

The Americans also worry about M. Dumas's alleged pro-Libyan stance.

Nunn leads England to chess silver

Salonika (AP) - England beat the Philippines in the early hours of Wednesday to snatch the silver medal in the final round of the Chess Olympiad and edge the United States into third place.

The Soviet Union, playing without Anatoly Karpov, the world champion had already captured its third straight Olympic gold medal. In the 14-round contest the Soviet team was defeated only once, by the United States who in the final game struggled to a 2-2 draw with Bulgaria.

In the final standings, the USSR finished with 41pts, England 37 and United States 35. England crushed the Philippines 3-1 in the final session with Tony Miles recovering from a near-certain loss to force a draw against the Filipino grandmaster Eugenio Torres. Jonathan Speelman drew with A.Yap, Jonathan Mestel beat B. Bernal and John Nunn defeated R. Mascariñas.

Nunn's victory, his tenth out of 11 games in the 88-nation contest, sent his international grandmaster ranking soaring



John Nunn: Ten wins

into the top ten among chess players.

In the women's contest, the Soviet Union finished with 32 pts to take a fourth successive gold medal in the biennial olympiad. Bulgaria captured the silver medal with 27½ pts and Romania, 27 pts edging out China and West Germany for the bronze.

Final round results: USSR 27½, W Germany 1½; Philippines 1, England 1½; Bulgaria 2, US 2; Cuba 2½; Yugoslavia 1½; Israel 2½; France 2½; Yugoslavia 1½; Israel 2½; Czechoslovakia 1½; Holland 2½; Brazil 1½; Poland 2½; Argentina 1½; Italy 1½; Iceland 2½; Denmark 2½; Spain 1½.

Final positions: 1. USSR 41pts; 2. England 37; 3. US 35; 4. Hungary 34½; 5. Romania 33; 6. W Germany and France 32½; equal eighth. Yugoslavia, Holland, Cuba, Bulgaria, Israel, China, Argentina 32.

Women's final round results: Holland 1½, USSR 1½, Poland 1½; Germany 2, Yugoslavia 1; Hungary 1½; Sweden 1½; US 2½; Canada 1½; Wales 1½; France 1½.

Final positions: 1. USSR 32½; 2. Bulgaria 27½; 3. Romania 27; 4. China, W Germany 26; 5. Hungary 25; 6. England, Poland 24½; 7. Spain, Yugoslavia 24.

● **MOSCOW:** One win away from retaining his title, Anatoly Karpov agreed to a draw yesterday in the twentieth round of his championship contest with Gari Kasparov. Karpov, playing black, had made his twentieth move. The players have now drawn 25 of their games. Karpov leads the contest 5-0.

Thirtieth game: White, Kasparov; Black, Karpov. 1. P-K4 P-K4 2. N-K3 N-K3 3. P-B3 P-B3 4. P-K3 P-K3 5. P-Q4 P-Q4 6. P-Q4 P-Q4 7. P-Q4 P-Q4 8. P-Q4 P-Q4 9. P-Q4 P-Q4 10. P-Q4 P-Q4 11. P-Q4 P-Q4 12. P-Q4 P-Q4 13. P-Q4 P-Q4 14. P-Q4 P-Q4 15. P-Q4 P-Q4 16. P-Q4 P-Q4 17. P-Q4 P-Q4 18. P-Q4 P-Q4 19. P-Q4 P-Q4 20. P-Q4 P-Q4 21. P-Q4 P-Q4 22. P-Q4 P-Q4 23. P-Q4 P-Q4 24. P-Q4 P-Q4 25. P-Q4 P-Q4 26. P-Q4 P-Q4 27. P-Q4 P-Q4 28. P-Q4 P-Q4 29. P-Q4 P-Q4 30. P-Q4 P-Q4 31. P-Q4 P-Q4 32. P-Q4 P-Q4 33. P-Q4 P-Q4 34. P-Q4 P-Q4 35. P-Q4 P-Q4 36. P-Q4 P-Q4 37. P-Q4 P-Q4 38. P-Q4 P-Q4 39. P-Q4 P-Q4 40. P-Q4 P-Q4 41. P-Q4 P-Q4 42. P-Q4 P-Q4 43. P-Q4 P-Q4 44. P-Q4 P-Q4 45. P-Q4 P-Q4 46. P-Q4 P-Q4 47. P-Q4 P-Q4 48. P-Q4 P-Q4 49. P-Q4 P-Q4 50. P-Q4 P-Q4 51. P-Q4 P-Q4 52. P-Q4 P-Q4 53. P-Q4 P-Q4 54. P-Q4 P-Q4 55. P-Q4 P-Q4 56. P-Q4 P-Q4 57. P-Q4 P-Q4 58. P-Q4 P-Q4 59. P-Q4 P-Q4 60. P-Q4 P-Q4 61. P-Q4 P-Q4 62. P-Q4 P-Q4 63. P-Q4 P-Q4 64. P-Q4 P-Q4 65. P-Q4 P-Q4 66. P-Q4 P-Q4 67. P-Q4 P-Q4 68. P-Q4 P-Q4 69. P-Q4 P-Q4 70. P-Q4 P-Q4 71. P-Q4 P-Q4 72. P-Q4 P-Q4 73. P-Q4 P-Q4 74. P-Q4 P-Q4 75. P-Q4 P-Q4 76. P-Q4 P-Q4 77. P-Q4 P-Q4 78. P-Q4 P-Q4 79. P-Q4 P-Q4 80. P-Q4 P-Q4 81. P-Q4 P-Q4 82. P-Q4 P-Q4 83. P-Q4 P-Q4 84. P-Q4 P-Q4 85. P-Q4 P-Q4 86. P-Q4 P-Q4 87. P-Q4 P-Q4 88. P-Q4 P-Q4 89. P-Q4 P-Q4 90. P-Q4 P-Q4 91. P-Q4 P-Q4 92. P-Q4 P-Q4 93. P-Q4 P-Q4 94. P-Q4 P-Q4 95. P-Q4 P-Q4 96. P-Q4 P-Q4 97. P-Q4 P-Q4 98. P-Q4 P-Q4 99. P-Q4 P-Q4 100. P-Q4 P-Q4

Hopes fade for 61 miners in blast pit

Taipei (Reuters) - Two miners died and more than 90 were trapped after cave-ins at different levels of privately-owned coal-mine 15 miles south-east of here. Hopes of rescuing 61 miners trapped 8,250ft underground by the deeper cave-in were slim because oxygen was running out. Rescue teams were working in the area of the first cave-in, which trapped 31 miners 1,900ft down.

The accidents were believed to have been caused by a methane explosion.

Double threat to Danube

Vienna (AP) - Hungarian ecologists have appealed for an end to work on two mammoth power stations at Gabickovo, Czechoslovakia, and Nagymaros, Hungary, which they say will cause irreversible damage to a broad stretch of the Danube and its surroundings.

In Gland, Switzerland, the World Wildlife Fund said it is taking legal action against the provincial government of Lower Austria, which has authorized construction of a hydro-electric project at Hainburg on the Danube. A river bank forest unique in Europe is threatened.

Polisario plea

Algiers (AFP) - The Polisario Liberation Front leader, Muhammad Abdelaziz, appealed in a letter to King Hassan of Morocco for a negotiated end to their nine-year war over Western Sahara. It was Polisario's first such initiative.

Dope ring free

Berne (AP) The Chilean leader and seven other convicted members of an international drug smuggling ring have escaped from Switzerland's only women's prison, Hindelbank, during the past 14 months, it was disclosed here.

Short acquittal

Kampala (AFP) - Uganda's Local Government Minister in the post-independence administration of President Milton Obote in the 1960s, Mr Balaki Kirya, was acquitted of treason and freed by the High Court here, but security officials immediately re-arrested him outside.

Top Swiss

Berne (AP) Switzerland's Economics Minister, Mr Kurt Furgler, aged 60, was elected President of the confederation for the 1985 term. It was the third time he had won the ballot since joining the Cabinet in 1971.

Balkan opening

Vienna (Reuters) - Albania, the Stalinist state that has shunned close contacts with other European countries, has signed five cooperation agreements with Greece on road transport, postal services, telecommunications, culture and scientific and technical matters.

Christian freed

Beirut (AFP) - Seventeen Christians kidnapped nine days ago in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, including 14 members of the Lebanese Army, were released by their Sunni Muslim fundamentalist captors. Christian militiamen lifted a road-block at Berbera.

Ghana devalues

Accra (AFP) - Ghana's currency the cedi was devalued for the third time this year, by approximately 30 per cent. Financial sources said it followed a consultative meeting on Ghana's economy called by the World Bank.

Mine unrest

Johannesburg (AFP) - Black coalminers began the second legal strike called this year by South Africa's 70,000-strong National Union of Mineworkers at a colliery where there has been a wage dispute since June.

Mobutu treble

Kinshasa (AP) - President Mobutu Sese Seko took the oath of office for his third seven-year term in a ceremony attended by several heads of state, mainly from Zaïre's African neighbours.

Political round

Rome (Reuters) - From today, members of Italy's small Radical Party

New Caledonia envoy hints at crackdown but contacts rebel chiefs

From Alan Hamilton, Noumea, New Caledonia

M. Edgar Pisani, the French special envoy appointed to seek a solution to the crisis in New Caledonia, yesterday outlined his timetable for a return to law and order and a political accommodation for the militant independence movement.

Addressing the Pacific island's 145,000 people on television, M. Pisani, outgoing EEC Commissioner for development aid policy, issued a thinly-veiled warning that French security forces would shortly begin a much tougher crackdown on violence and sabotage, which have resulted in at least two deaths, a dozen serious injuries, and widespread damage to property.

A member of M. Pisani's staff has been in contact with rebel leaders to discuss their demand for the release of 17 prisoners arrested during disturbances at last month's election. Their release has been set as a condition for lifting roadblocks. Some remote villages have been cut off for more than a week.

French military helicopters yesterday flew another 80 women and children from outlying villages, bringing the total ferried to the safety of Noumea, the capital, to more than 400. There were reports of violence, vandalism and arson in country districts.

M. Pisani said that, provided order was restored, he would begin consultations with all parties in the independence dispute, including the militant Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front.

On December 15, by January 5, he hoped to present the outlines of a settlement for debate by all parties involved, and he aimed to make a final report to President Mitterrand by February 2.

Earlier, in an interview with *The Times* and other correspondents, M. Jean-Marie Tjibaou, self-styled president of Kanaky, the name chosen by the Melanesian population should they win independence from France, admitted that 17 members of his movement had spent four months in Libya, but he denied that his "provisional government" was receiving any aid from Colonel Gaddafi or any other foreign power.

M. Tjibaou, a 48-year-old Melanesian and former priest educated at the Sorbonne and at a Roman Catholic seminary in Lyons, said his movement had the support of more than half the 62,000 Kanak (Melanesian) population of New Caledonia and that his followers controlled nearly half the island.

Speaking at his movement's headquarters in a Noumea suburb where few tourists venture, M. Tjibaou said he would remove all road blocks as soon as the 17 prisoners were released.

Despite reports of violence, M. Tjibaou said that since the appointment of M. Pisani three days ago, he had ordered his men to "cool it". He denied he was leading an armed insurrection. "We have simply placed

people at road blocks to protect our militants in the face of (French) colonists who are well-armed. If the colonists want war, it is they who are equipped to wage it, not us." Active members of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front are estimated at about 400, armed mainly with shotguns and hunting rifles.

M. Tjibaou said his claim to an independent state was based on the Melanesian claim to their own land, progressively seized from them since the first French colonization in 1853.

Under his republic, he said, French settlers, known as *Caldoches*, would have to wait three years to be granted citizenship, and another three years for full nationality. M. Tjibaou said M. Pisani's peace mission had a slender chance of success.

Any proposed settlement will almost certainly have to be put to a referendum, at the French Government's insistence, and M. Tjibaou, knowing he would lose such a vote because Kanaks form a minority of the population, has so far refused to acknowledge any referendum which includes French settlers.

"But if we lose a referendum, we do not have the means to make war." Although M. Tjibaou's forces appear to be a raggle-taggle and ill-equipped band, they have struck panic into the hearts of the settlers.

Australian and New Zealand have advised their nationals not to visit New Caledonia.

Middle East peace proposals will dominate meetings with Mitterrand

Peres on historic Paris mission

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The re-establishment of close and warm ties between France and Israel was marked by the arrival in Paris yesterday of Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, at the start of a four-day visit. It is the first time for more than 30 years that an Israeli head of government has paid an official visit to France.

Mr Peres will be the fourth Middle East leader to have had talks with President Mitterrand within the last six months after the French President's recent visits to Syria and Jordan, and President Mubarak of Egypt's visit to France.

The situation in the Middle East and the various peace proposals now being discussed will dominate today's and tomorrow's talks between Mr Mitterrand and Mr Peres, but no spectacular initiative is expected.

Mr Mitterrand can be expected to maintain France's position on the Middle East. While France upholds the right of Israel to secure borders, it also insists on the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to a state of their own, and wants the Palestine Liberation Organization to be "associated" with any Middle East peace negotiations. Israel rejects any negotiation with PLO "terrorists".

France's position is less clear towards an international conference on the Middle East under the aegis of the United Nations, with the participation of all the parties involved, including the Soviet Union, as advocated by Syria, Jordan and Egypt, but again opposed by Israel. France has sometimes appeared to support the proposal, but has recently adopted a more ambivalent attitude.

Differences over the Middle East are not expected to overshadow the talks, however. In an interview with *Le Monde* on the eve of his visit, Mr Peres said France was well placed to promote a dialogue. Franco-Israeli relations have been chequered. The solid friendship established soon after the foundation of Israel was broken by de Gaulle's markedly pro-Arab policy in the 1960s. The cool relations between the two countries continued under Pompidou and M. Giscard d'Estaing.

The 1981 election of Mr Mitterrand brought a shift towards Israel, and in March 1983 the President became the first Western leader to pay an official visit to Israel. But it was not a return to the halcyon days of the 1950s.

Mr Mitterrand was determined to pursue as far as possible an even-handed policy. Making friends with Israel did not mean abandoning France's forthright condemnation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and the Sabra and Chatila massacres.

The damage caused to Franco-Israeli relations by those events has now been repaired. The fact that Mr Mitterrand and Mr Peres are both socialists and friends of long standing can only serve to increase the warmth of the new friendship.



M. Laurent Fabius (left), the French Prime Minister, greeting Mr Peres at Orly airport yesterday.

Cairo and Amman warned on PLO

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli acting Prime Minister, told Egypt and Jordan yesterday that their support for the Palestine Liberation Organization and peace with Israel were incompatible.

He was winding up a parliamentary debate on recent Middle East developments, which Israeli left-wingers said opened the way for peace.

Mr Shamir said events such as the meeting of the Palestine National Council in Amman last week had not altered the PLO's aim to annihilate the state of Israel and establish another Arab state in its place. The diplomatic offensive was a technical move supplementing but not replacing terror.

Mr Shamir, who is standing in during Mr Shimon Peres's visit to France, quoted Abu Iyad, deputy of Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, as having told the Amman convention that in expressing a desire for an independent state on any part of Palestinian land, the PLO had not given up its claim to all of it. Abu Iyad was quoted as having said: "The Zionists took Palestine inch by inch and we must retrieve it inch by inch".

Mr Shamir said: "Any Jordanian partnership which blocks every path to peace." Another obstacle was "the vain and dangerous illusion" of Israel returning to its 1949 borders.

Nato defence planning

Europeans pressed to step up spending

From Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent, Brussels

The United States is again exerting pressure on European members of Nato to make extra efforts to improve their conventional defence.

Although the Americans have welcomed the decision taken on Tuesday to more than double Nato's spending on improvements to airfields and other facilities, it is clear that they do not think that this goes far enough.

At the end of the two-day meeting of Nato's Defence Planning Committee here yesterday the official communiqué stated that the organisation's secretary-general, Lord Carrington, had been asked "to come forward with proposals for a coherent effort to improve Nato's conventional defence".

Lord Carrington said the focus of this week's meeting had been on the upgrading of the conventional non-nuclear part of Nato's deterrent which was "the key to the political acceptability of flexible response".

The meeting was rife with speculation about a possible US "conventional defence initiative".

Although no detailed proposals have been put forward, they seem very keen that means should be found to maintain the impetus of defence development within the alliance, as the commitment to a 3 per cent annual real growth, under which Nato has operated since 1979, expires in just over a year.

The studies which Lord Carrington is to carry out will

Chernenko raises peace hopes

Moscow (Reuters) - President

Chernenko said yesterday the Soviet Union was prepared to adopt radical solutions to the arms race and hoped to reach understandings with America in the forthcoming talks. Moscow's top priority was a ban on space weapons, he said in a message to International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, announced here that the number of Russian SS20 missile launchers deployed had risen from 378 early this year to 387.

As the SS20s are deployed at a rate of nine launchers to a base, this suggests that only one new SS20 base has come into operation.

However, Mr Weinberger denied that this represented a slowing down in the rate of Soviet missile deployment. He said that apart from the missiles formally deployed, there were many other SS20 launchers which were in all probability in other areas, and many of these were likely to be deployed very shortly.

Weinberger opposes arms cuts

From Mohsin Ali

Washington

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, will fight a strong rearguard battle with his Cabinet colleagues next week to ensure there are no deep cuts in American defence spending in the 1985 budget proposals now before President Reagan.

Mr Weinberger will also try to lessen the continuing strong opposition in Congress to the building of the MX missile. The President wants to deploy 100 of these.

Two right-wing Republicans, Senator Steven Symms of Idaho and Senator John East of North Carolina, have further complicated the MX controversy by threatening to vote against the missile if President Reagan does not stop abiding by the unratified 1979 strategic arms limitation treaty (Salt II), because of alleged Soviet violations.

But a State Department spokesman said on Tuesday that the President's policy on interim restraint had not changed.

US presence in Europe defended

By Henry Stanhope

Diplomatic Correspondent

The withdrawal of American troops from Europe would strengthen the case for those who call for European neutrality and an accommodation with the Russians, Sir Geoffrey Howe says today.

Far from prompting Nato's Old World members to stand on their own two feet, it would make them question their defence commitments to each other, he writes in the *Journal of Foreign Affairs*.

The European Community, despite progress towards integration, was still only a collection of separate states, unable to switch resources as was possible in one nation like the United States.

Even so the European share of Nato defence spending had risen from 23 to 40 per cent during the last 15 years. Between 1971 and 1982 the European contribution actually rose by a quarter while the American figure went slightly down.

Coffee pickers murdered in Contra harvest war

Managua (Reuters) - At least 23 people have allegedly been killed by right-wing guerrillas in the northern Nicaraguan city of Esteli.

Residents said the victims, who included students and workers, were ambushed on Tuesday on their way to work as coffee pickers in the northern province of Nueva Segovia, close to Contra bases in neighbouring Honduras.

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Blaize unmoved as Gairy's MP threatens to renounce seat

From Christopher Thomas, St George's

The only opposition MP in the new Grenadian Parliament, Mr Marcel Peters, is threatening not to take up his seat in protest at the "fixed" general election.

He is a member of the Grenada United Labour Party, headed by Sir Eric Gairy, the former Prime Minister. The New National Party captured 14 of the 15 seats.

Mr Peters's constituency is outside Grenville, a one-street town where Sir Eric was born. It is traditionally a stronghold of the party.

Sir Eric said he might join forces with the pro-Cuban Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement to protest about Monday's election, which both parties claimed was rigged by the United States. Observers from Britain, Canada and the Organization of American States said it was "flawless".

If Mr Peters does decline his seat, there will be a by-election. The threat is clearly of little concern to Mr Herbert Blaize, the Prime Minister. Opposition, he said, was no business of government. No one takes seriously Sir Eric's claim that his supporters were disfranchised by the use of disappearing ink.

The final figures show a

remarkable turnout of 84.9 per cent of the 48,000 electorate. The vote distribution was: New National Party 23,984; Grenada United Labour Party 14,677; Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement 2,022; Others 220.

Indications are that the new parliamentary session will not begin until early January. The interim Government has been disbanded and Grenada is temporarily in the hands of the civil service, while Mr Blaize ponders the formation of his administration.

After a rowdy but trouble-free day of celebrations on Tuesday, the island settled down to a special public holiday yesterday.

Mr Blaize has asked the United States to keep its 200 military personnel on Grenada until local security forces have been trained and equipped. Caribbean countries have also been requested to keep their troops here.

WASHINGTON: President Reagan yesterday said the election represented an achievement of historic importance, the first occasion in which a nation had returned to democracy after being freed from Marxist-Leninist rule (Mohsin Ali writes).

America's victory, page 16



Winner's welcome: Mr Blaize arriving at Point Salines airport from Carriacou. Hooting cars, lorries and buses later joined the 10-mile procession to St George's.

Bolivians win big pay rises

La Paz (Reuters) - Bolivian trade unions called off a seven-day-old general strike last night, saying they had secured wage rises of more than 750 per cent and a Government agreement to freeze the prices of basic foodstuffs.

"We have obtained substantial economic improvements for workers, active and passive alike," Señor Juan Lechin, leader of the Bolivian Workers Confederation, told reporters

President Hernán Siles Zuazo's Government made no immediate statement about the settlement, but Government sources expressed satisfaction that the strike was over.

The stoppage, in protest against tough government austerity measures to stave off economic collapse, fed fears of a new military takeover in coup-prone Bolivia.

The unions said that the Government had pledged to

freeze the price of 10 basic foodstuffs indefinitely. Inflation is running at around 1,000 per cent, according to the National Statistics Institute.

The Government introduced price rises of up to 200 per cent on food and 1,100 per cent on fuels last month in an attempt to slow rapid economic deterioration.

The stoppage was the seventh called by the unions this year.

Sri Lankan troops are accused of killing 85

Colombo (AP) - At least 85 people were killed in the northern district of Mannar after a guerrilla attack on a Sri Lanka army convoy, hospital sources said yesterday.

Residents of the area, about 192 miles north of Colombo, alleged that troops went on a rampage on Tuesday to avenge the killing of one soldier and the wounding of six others in a landmine explosion.

A Government spokesman denied the allegations, saying soldiers killed 24 separatists after an attack on an army jeep.

Familial rebels are fighting for an independent state in the north and east of the island. They form about 18 per cent of the population, but dominate the northern region. They claim persecution by the Sinhalese majority.

Mannar Hospital said it had received the bodies of between 85 and 90 people killed in Murunkan and Parapankandal villages on Tuesday.

Between 25 and 30 people were being treated for gunshot wounds, said the hospital sources, who requested anonymity for their own security. They said most of the dead were Tamil civilians killed in random reprisals by troops.

The army had been accused of setting fire to more than 100 Tamil houses and shops in the Mannar area in August after rebel attacks.

Australian outlook: Part 2

Drug fears rise as big fish go free

In the second of three articles on Australia, Alan Hamilton, who covered the re-election of Mr Bob Hawke, discusses public responses to corruption and drug addiction.

Of infinitely greater interest to the average Australian than last week's general election, judging by the news priorities of the tabloids and of some television stations, was the story that Bob Hawke had been substituted for Fin Cotton in a race at Eagle Farm last August.

Not only the bookmakers and a leading punter alleged to be at the centre of the ringer scandal, but a Roman Catholic priest and five other supposedly upright citizens were warned off the tracks for life by the Australian Jockey Club.

A few days previously, Sydney commuters had had a free ride to work when toll collectors on the harbour bridge staged a 24-hour strike in protest at the dismissal of four of their mates for helping themselves to the toll money. No wonder, 52 years after it was built, the bridge is still not paid for.

Then there is the case, still before the courts, of the former Prisoners Minister who is alleged to have let prisoners out early in return for a bribe.

And there is the Costigan Commission, which uncovered "bottom of the barrel" asset-stripping fiddles estimated to have cost the Government thousands of millions of dollars in lost tax, not to mention the implication that numerous public figures were associated with organized crime.

There are the allegations, made in a BBC Panorama programme last week, of vote-rigging by the Australian Labour Party in New South Wales, not forgetting the fact that one state and one federal, who are suspected of conspiring to pervert the course of justice as a favour to a friend.

It can often appear that Australia, founded as a penal colony, still is one.

Not that Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, has himself been in any way touched by the shadow of impropriety. The Opposition Leader's taunt that he was "a little crook" has entirely failed to stick. Mr Hawke just has the misfortune to lead a nation where doing a

favour for a friend appears often to be regarded as a more proper course than playing the game strictly by the rules.

Besides, Australians have a strong gambling instinct, leading them to believe that there are certain risks worth taking. They spend the equivalent of £400 per head every year on horses and lotteries, and Sydney alone has an estimated 150 illegal casinos.

The fact that crime and corruption never really became an election issue, except fleetingly towards the end of the campaign, could be taken as an indication that Australians regard its existence as a normal part of the scenery. In other words, there were no votes in it.

Mr Hawke's campaign promise to assign A\$10m (£7.1m) to upgrade the federal police computer is hardly the action of a man who fears imminent takeover by the mob.

If anything alarms the average Australian, it is not the policeman getting his Friday night "freebie" from the prostitutes of Sydney's King's Cross, but the enormous increase in drug addiction. The nation's turnover of illicit drugs has reached an estimated £1.1 billion, and even the Prime Minister's daughter succumbed to heroin, although she is now reportedly well on her way to a cure.

Federal police now have the right to tap telephones in the case of suspected drug dealing, the only area of crime where they have such a power. The upgrading of the police computer is largely aimed at smashing the drug rackets.

Drug addiction is a product of crime which affects families directly and often tragically, whereas backhanders and favours in the public service are not. There is nevertheless concern in many quarters that the Costigan Commission has been replaced by a permanent, but relatively powerless, National Crime Authority. The big fish, it is felt, are still getting away, but unfortunately too many Australians do not seem to mind.

Tomorrow: Immigrants

Mintoff to announce retirement soon

From our Correspondent Valletta

Mr Dom Mintoff, the Maltese Prime Minister, who is expected to announce his resignation soon, observed on Tuesday that the speech he was making could be his last on foreign policy.

He was winding up a parliamentary debate on a Bill to ratify the treaty of friendship and co-operation between Libya and Malta. Political observers believe he will announce his resignation after his return from Moscow, and will choose December 22, the last day of the 1985 budget debate, which is being televised live. The Prime Minister will also deliver his annual end-of-year broadcast to the nation.

Mr Mintoff's successor has already been chosen by the



Mr Mintoff: Last speech on foreign policy

Malta Labour Party. He is Dr Carmelo Mizzi Bonnici.

Mr Mintoff has been leader of his party for 35 years.

Heart man regaining his strength

Louisville, (NYT) - Nine days after receiving an artificial heart, Mr William J Schroeder is moving into the next phase of his recovery: exercise and rehabilitation.

Yesterday, to help Mr Schroeder regain his strength, doctors at the Human Heart Institute International started an exercise programme, getting him out of bed, moving around and developing a more effective range of motion and use of his muscles.

Mr Schroeder, a 52-year-old retired civil servant, remains seriously ill but is slowly regaining his strength. He is now able to stand up and walk to a scale to be weighed, his doctors said. Last Thursday, when he got out of bed and took his first steps since the implant operation, he needed assistance.

"He is progressing very well and we are all very pleased," Dr William C Devries, his surgeon, said at a news conference. He said Mr Schroeder was recovering at the pace doctors expected.

More die in clashes on Thai border

Bangkok (AFP) - Khmer Rouge guerrillas clashed with Vietnamese-led Phnom Penh forces near the Thai border, 155 miles east of here yesterday.

Reports, quoting Khmer Rouge sources, said 10 Vietnamese troops had been killed and that the rebels suffered undetermined losses. The fighting occurred between Sam and Tam on Cambodian soil near the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet.

Guerrillas loyal to Mr Son Sann, chief of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, also engaged Vietnamese forces near the Nong Chan encampment, about 20 miles to the north east.

Guerrillas attempted to cut off a Vietnamese supply line to recapture the Nong Chan encampment, portions of which had fallen to Vietnamese in recent weeks. Rebels said five of its men were killed and 13 wounded in an unsuccessful attempt to regain control of a lake inside the Nong Chan base, which had been under Vietnamese siege for about a month.

Fair shares in the French franc's richest five

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Three women are among the five richest people in France, with fortunes of more than £1 billion (francs), according to research carried out by the *Nouvel Observateur* magazine.

M Marcel Dassault, owner of the Dassault aircraft manufacturer, remains the richest person in France with "at least £5 billion francs". Next comes Mme Liliane Bettencourt, daughter of the founder of the Oreal cosmetics company, with

a fortune estimated at 2.5 billion francs.

In the third place, with 1.4 billion francs, is Mme Anne Groener-Schlumberger, daughter of the founder of the Schlumberger multinational company.

She is followed by Baron Edmond de Rothschild, the banker, with a fortune "well in excess of 1 billion francs", and in fifth place is Mme Georgette Deutsch de la Meurthe, whose family is the biggest shareholder in Shell France.

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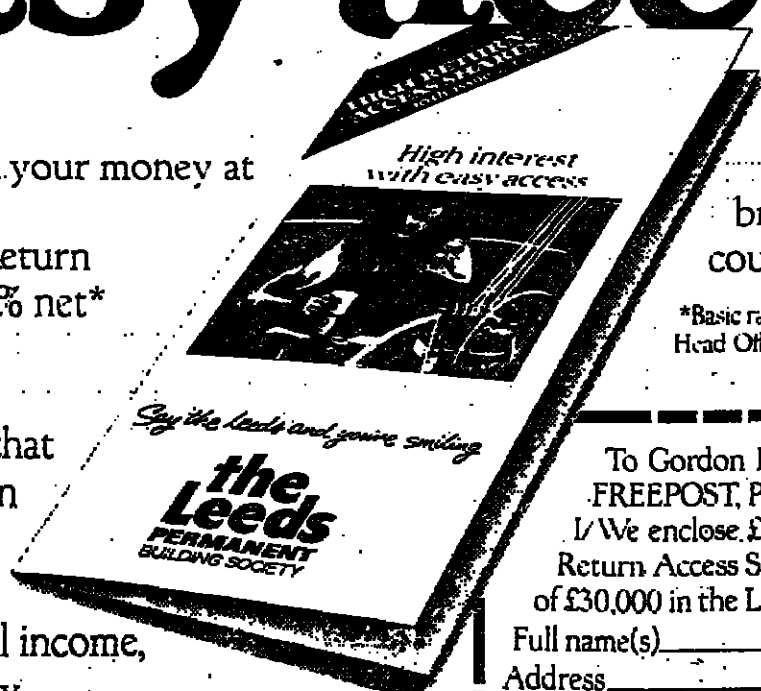
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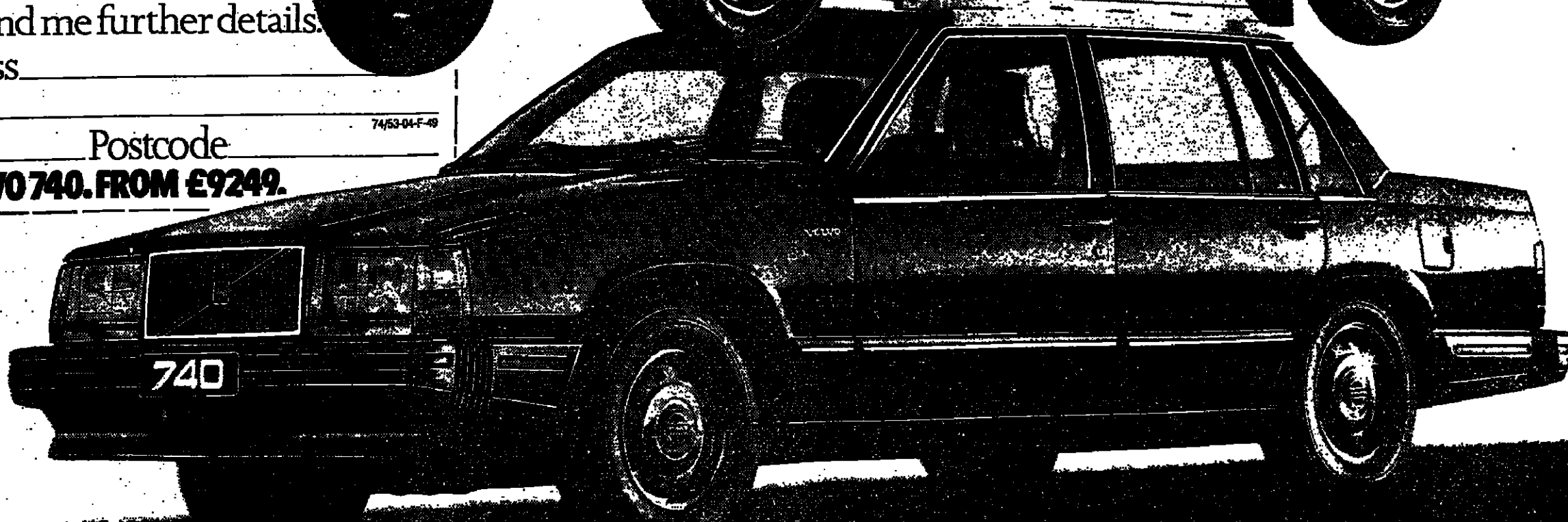
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BOOKS II

American Dionysus:
Shelley of his age

Robert Lowell once called Hart Crane "the Shelley of my age", which gets it about right. The surprise is that the work of this modern Shelley has been unavailable in Britain for years - a state of affairs now rectified by the publication of *The Complete Poems of Hart Crane*, edited by Brom Weber (*Bloodaxe Books*, £4.95). Here is all the verse which Crane wrote in the course of his short and tortured life, a hundred poems or so, many of them in the form of fragments, strident or incoherent, but perhaps half a dozen of them not, half a dozen of them near-perfect expressions of an absolutely twentieth century lyrical genius.

POETRY
Robert Nye

and observe his own fate with exactitude.
Then, drop by caustic drop, a perfect cry
Shall string some constant harmony,
Relentless eaper for all those who step
The legend of their youth into the noon.
● A living English poet with at least some of Crane's vigour is Tony Harrison, as can be seen from his *Selected Poems*, published simultaneously in King Penguin paperback (£3.50) and Viking hardcover (£9.95). Harrison was born in Yorkshire in 1937, and has been hailed as the first genuine working-class poet England has produced this century. At his best, his work is all his own, witty, unimpeachable, a series of plain but exuberant statements about birth and copulation and death, all discovered with a mixture of grace and deadpan truthfulness. He defines his own gift agreeably:
How you became a poet's
a mystery!
Wherever did you get your talent from?
I say: I had two uncles, Joe and Harry -
One was a stammerer, the other dumb.

O brilliant kids, frisk with your
Fondle your shells and sticks, bleached
By time and the elements; but
there is a line
You must not cross nor ever
trust beyond it
Spry cordage of your bodies to
Too lichen-faithful from too
wide a breast
The bottom of the sea is cruel.

Crane, of course, is one of those writers who arouse violent sympathies in their admirers and equally passionate dislike in other people. He could be fastidious and precise in his use of language - see the superb early poem, "Chaplinesque", which among other felicities manages to catch the movement of Chaplin's little tramp persona in its rhythm and choice of words. He could also pour out great clouds of windy rhetoric, sentimental when it wasn't simply evasive or pretentious - see the "Indiana" and "Cape Hatteras" sections of "The Bridge". To my own mind, "The Bridge" - that vastly ambitious attempt to write a consciously major poem that would make "a mystical synthesis of America" - seems irrelevant to Crane's real achievement as a poet.

That achievement I would define by reference to the half dozen poems already mentioned, which comprise the Chaplin one, "The Wine Menagerie", "The Broken Tower", "Legend", "Crane for an Urn", and the important sequence called "Voyages", quoted above. In these poems Crane's peculiar kind of lyricism, leaping language, passionately intelligent feeling, is held in balance, however precariously, by a desire to make sense of something beyond himself. I do not think one does Crane any disservice by insisting on his best work, and pointing out its difference, almost in kind, from what in drunken moments he thought was most representative of him.

He had supreme lyric gifts, and he wrote with more dense and complex feeling than most of his contemporaries. It is a tragedy not only that he killed himself, but that he was critically misled or self-deluded about the nature of his own talent. The mystery is not that he lived and died in the Dionysian way that he did, but that he managed to stand still in himself some half a dozen times

Taking tea with Denton Welch must always have been accounted a high-risk occupation, but especially once his largely autobiographical writings (even those lightly disguised as fiction) had started to come out in *Maiden Voyage* and *In Youth is Pleasure* in the last years of the war. For here was an eye, and a mind, needle-sharp and though not essentially unkindly - merciless. If one came anywhere within range of either, one was all too likely to be pinned down in primly feline prose, like a butterfly on a board, for the dispassionate scrutiny of strangers.

The full extent of the pinning-down process became evident only with the first publication of Jocelyn Brooke's selection from the journals in 1952 four years after Welch's death. And even with what the tactful editor had left, some people were very upset indeed; a fully prepared edition of Welch's letters, which was to have followed, was quietly dropped because of the upset. Mr De-la-Noy, the journal's new editor, is surely being disingenuous when he affects not to know why Brooke was so selective ("it seems inconceivable that [the major deletions] were all made [although some were] because Brooke thought them boring, irrelevant or repetitious") four years after the writer's death is too close to burden the fragile reputation that longer survival may warrant, and in any case another 32 years reduce remarkably the number

Continuity and the changes that fashion it are rich themes for a novel. They figure prominently in John Edgar Wideman's *Sent For You Yesterday*, the final part of his *Homewood* trilogy. *Homewood* is a black district of Pittsburgh. Its streets and the language spawned by them will be familiar to those who have read and admired *Damballah* and *Hiding Place*. The earlier books told the story of Sybela Owens's family from slavery days to the plight of her descendant Tommy, a native son of the late modern America. *Sent For You Yesterday* focuses on a single generation: on two families growing up in the Forties against the backdrop of a white man's war, united by love and suspicion. Three inches of ivory in comparison, perhaps, but, as Uncle Carl says "get closer and closer and things come apart and the finest bit of anything is big as the world".

Brother Tate is an albino, an outcast because of "that whiteness which made him less nigger and more nigger at the same time". He and Carl spend their afternoons by the railway track, during each other to stand one step nearer to the line as the freight swooshes by. The routine is interrupted by the return of Albert Wilkes, a piano-player. Where has he been and what is he returning to? Lemuel Strayhorn is still stationed on the corner with his "iceball cart", and the local men still quarrel into the night at the Backer of Blood. But otherwise *Homewood* is changed utterly. Nothing signals this so clearly as the day Wilkes is gunned down by the police.

His music survives to rally the young. For them the world is a "hurting trick". Only drugs, sex and music offer escape. But the novel ends on a high note

How a quaint fancy grew into a rich and disturbing creative imagination

John Russell Taylor

THE JOURNALS OF
DENTON WELCH
Edited by
Michael De-la-Noy
Allison & Busby, £14.95
I LEFT MY
GRANDFATHER'S
HOUSE
By Denton Welch
Allison & Busby, £7.95,
paperback, £2.95
DENTON WELCH
The Making of a Writer
By Michael De-la-Noy
Viking, £12.95



Self portrait by Denton Welch

of people around to take personal exception or offence. What the new version does do is add some 75,000 words to the canon, plus another 35,000 only privately printed before and now detached from the body of the journals and separately published as *I Left My Grandfather's House*, on the reasonable grounds that at this point Welch is just using the journal notebooks as a convenient place to draft a quite independent piece of autobiographical fiction. By now there can be little doubt that the enterprise is justified. There are theses and books galore (including the new biography by Mr De-la-Noy), and numerous reprints of Welch's own work

clearly, however fragile Welch's results of a serious road accident, he might never have found in himself the creative urgency which turned a quaint fancy into a rich and disturbing imagination, and the stages of his physical decline, matched by

his gathering of creative power, are sharply and unselfishly chronicled in the journals.

Yes, the plural of Welch's own label definitely implies that the document was meant for publication; and one suspects that Welch's finishing, as he had started, with an unfinished sentence was a deliberate literary device, indicating that, almost exactly four months before his death, he regarded the work as complete. *I Left My Grandfather's House* achieves a certain *Grand Meaulnes* kind of magic; the rest of the journals is not only constantly fascinating, but, especially considering the appalling circumstances in which much of them was written, an astonishingly cheerful document of the indomitable will to go on living, go on working, and spit in the eye of anyone who says different.

Given the wealth of autobiographical writing by Welch - and given that, but for the occasional appearance of more naked young men than wartime Kent could reasonably be expected to hold, it seems to be remarkably truthful - one might wonder why a biography of this brief span is also called for. Mr De-la-Noy says frankly that he has let Welch as far as possible speak for himself, and has indulged in a "greater use of quotations than is perhaps usual in a biography". Even so, it is interesting to be given an outside, sympathetic but not totally uncritical frame of reference, and to find out from survivors just how Welch struck others, when we know so well how they struck him.

Black and white and grey life

FICTION

Hugh Barnes

SENT FOR YOU
YESTERDAY
By John Edgar Wideman
Allison & Busby, £7.95
DRIFTERS
By Tom Wakefield
Gay Men's Press, £9.95
BOY WITH AN INJURED
EYE
By Ronan Sheehan
Brandon, £7.95,
paperback, £3.95
JANE
By Douglas Eves
Book Guild, £8.75

and the promise of a better existence. *Sent For You Yesterday* is as disparate and difficult as the life it describes. It is a brilliant piece of writing. Tom Wakefield's *Drifters* is a collection of short stories about some other people who are alternately persecuted and ignored. In "The Nature Lover", caught up in a successful career, Aubrey employs Arthur to tame the jungle which is his garden. It might be a gay re-working of Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley*. What the characters in this book share is a hunger

for love and affection, gratefully satisfied in a hostile world. There is sadness in them all, but even in the bleakest moments, in "Friendly Smiles" and "A Dubious Angel", friendship and good fortune are found. Wakefield is an accomplished narrator, detached, witty and knowing. In spite of this, or because of it, the stories are extremely moving.

Ronan Sheehan's *Boy With An Injured Eye* spans centuries and a continent, from Nero's Rome to the Ireland of the present day. The title story is set in the 1700s. Sylvester O'Halloran, an aspiring eye surgeon, is dispatched by his sister to study with his uncle, Sean Clarrach MacDonnail, fosterer of his nephew's incipient nationalism. Jacobitism reverberates across the water, and Sylvester's heady rise to ophthalmological notoriety is arrested by his insight into things invisible. Sheehan patiently unravels his colonial theme. Most striking is the description of Limerick's wasted landscape: "Some of the best grazing land in Europe but it might have been mistaken for the worst. The fields were spotted by ragwort and thistles."

Douglas Eves's heroine, soon to be engaged to banker Robert and doing the "grand tour" in the meantime, is swept off her feet by a famous theatre director, Philip, who is schooling himself in Venetian lowlife for his forthcoming production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Unfortunately Jane buckles under ponderous literary reference, much meditation on Love with a capital L, and some very sticky dialogue. Still, the settings are nice, and it's a perfect choice for Christmas if you're planning summer holidays and like to think the upper middle classes monopolize despair.

The snakes and ladders of cultural diplomacy

Anthony Parsons

THE BRITISH COUNCIL
The First Fifty Years
By Frances Donaldson
Cape, £16

The daunting title of this book should not discourage readers, even the 99 per cent of the population who have never heard of the British Council. The fact that the author is Frances Donaldson is a guarantee of accurate research, readability, and a stimulating blend of fact and penetrating comment. The narrative spins along at a pace that keeps interest alive from start to finish.

Lady Donaldson has written a detailed history of the evolution of British cultural diplomacy over the past half century; she has also illuminated the weird attitude of the British Establishment towards the export of our language, arts, sciences, etc. (in short of all that is best in our civilization) to foreign countries, even to those where British political and commercial influence had been predominant for many years. While the French, Italians, and Germans regarded cultural diplomacy as the national duty of any civilized state and were conscious of the political and material benefits deriving from the dissemination overseas of their languages and cultures, the British regarded this kind of thing as unnecessary, infra dig and slightly "propaganda". Hence we were the last in this

field, and only created an instrument of cultural diplomacy when certain far-sighted people in Whitehall woke up to the fact that Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy were challenging our interests close to our imperial home, for example in Egypt, by the export of ideological along with their cultures. It can be argued without grotesque oversimplification that we owe our entry into this important arena to Hitler, Mussolini, and (Australian) official of the Foreign Office, and Lord Lloyd, the former High Commissioner in Cairo. Lady Donaldson traces the Council's passage through a game of political and official snakes and ladders which has brought it high up the board but still vulnerable. Relentless financial pressure from governments in which philistinism has never been entirely absent has constituted the main array of snakes. Fortunately, the majority of the "Spate of Reports", as one chapter in the book is entitled, although starting out as snakes have been transformed, by direct observation of the value of the Council's work, into ladders.

For those few (I hope) remaining diehards to whom the words British Council evoke a vision of ebullient aesthetes dishing out the subtleties of *Stravinsky* and the *Green Knight* to uncomprehending audiences of Outer Mongolians in the intervals between rounds of Morris dancing - all at the taxpayers' expense, I recommend the Epilogue, "a personal account of visits to British Council offices" by Lady Donaldson.

Jibbooms
John Campbell

ARTHUR RANSOME
AND CAPTAIN FLINT'S
TRUNK
By Christina Hardymont
Cape, £7.95

I think it was Miles Kingdon who recently pointed out the gulf of incomprehension and contempt that divides those who were brought up on the William books from those brought up on *Swallows and Amazons*. This is a book to confirm the thesis. The former will be utterly mystified; any unwary William fan who picked it up could make out neither head nor tail of it. Those who loved the *Swallows*, however, the admirers of the timber-shivering Captain Nancy, will be unable to put it down.

Following on Hugh Brogan's centenary biography of Ransome which dealt disappointingly lightly with the books that gave him his lasting fame, Christina Hardymont has had the wonderful idea of uncovering not only the real people but the real places which were the thinly disguised originals of Ransome's unforgettable evocative stories.

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The man who is a law unto himself

The Times Profile: Sir Michael Havers

Kenneth Marx used to tell the story of a wartime dinner he once had with his friend Michael Havers, a young naval officer. The discussion turned to their future. What would they do when the war was over? Marx was in no doubt that he was going to be a great actor. "I'm going to become an Attorney General", Havers said firmly.

He doesn't remember that precise response. After all, he was barely 20, had not even started studying for the Bar, and does not believe he "could have been so conceited at that time". The Attorney General has become, legal adviser to the Government and the House of Commons, head of the Bar, chief prosecutor of England and Wales, guardian of the public interest in enforcing the law, a possible future Lord Chancellor and a not infrequent subject of controversy.

No Attorney General of recent times has been so often in the public eye: none has appeared so keen to explain his actions, sometimes at his peril. Recent indiscreet remarks about his decision to prosecute Clive Ponting, for allegedly leaking Heligoland secrets, provoked even the

He is an unstuffy man who has led a jolly and uncomplicated life

quixotic demand that he prosecute himself for contempt of court.

The job of Attorney General is a curious mixture of seemingly incompatible duties and responsibilities. It is a political appointment given to partisans of the government in power, yet the incumbent is then required to set aside his party political allegiance and assume the mantle of legal detachment. He exists in a half-world in which lawyers see him mainly as a politician, and politicians see him as a hybrid creature, political enough for some purposes, important member of the Government for others.

Some previous holders of the office have treated it, impatiently, as a stepping stone to further political advancement. Others have found the juggling of the various political and public hats too difficult a trick to master; their unease has been palpable. In contrast, Michael Havers and his job seem perfectly suited to each other.

He is a gregarious, unstuffy, uncomplicated man who, apart from an IRA attempt to blow him up (in 1981), has led a jolly and uncomplicated life, full of family happiness and success in his professional and political ambitions. By nature he is an enthusiast, whether for shooting, writing (he has co-authored two books, on a famous Victorian murder trial and a great card scandal), photography, or resisting a much-publicized attempt by his landlady to increase his rent.

The Havers are an old East Anglian family. One of them was steward to the Duke of Norfolk in the 15th century. The large estate he was given for his services was gambled away by a later ancestor. During this century the family has developed something of a legal dynasty. Michael's grandfather was a solicitor, his father became a High Court Judge (and reached the last 16 of the men's singles at Wimbledon); his sister Elizabeth is Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, one of the few women to be elevated to the High Court Bench; and his son Philip is at the Bar.

His other son, the actor Nigel, is seldom absent from our film and

television screens, and his father is extraordinarily proud of his increasing fame and acclaim.

Sir Michael's own acting talents were honed in that most difficult school, the courtroom, trying to persuade a jury of the guilt, or innocence, of the accused in the dock. He has also accomplished his work as a highly effective court advocate that he is mainly remembered for.

His father and Keith Richard were among his clients, accused of minor drugs charges that would probably not even be brought today. "I hated doing the case because of the bitter atmosphere. You could feel the enormous hostility. There was no way that any jury was going to acquit them, whatever the evidence. And the judge, too, was very hostile. He was virtually taking the line: 'We must rid West Sussex of these sort of people.'"

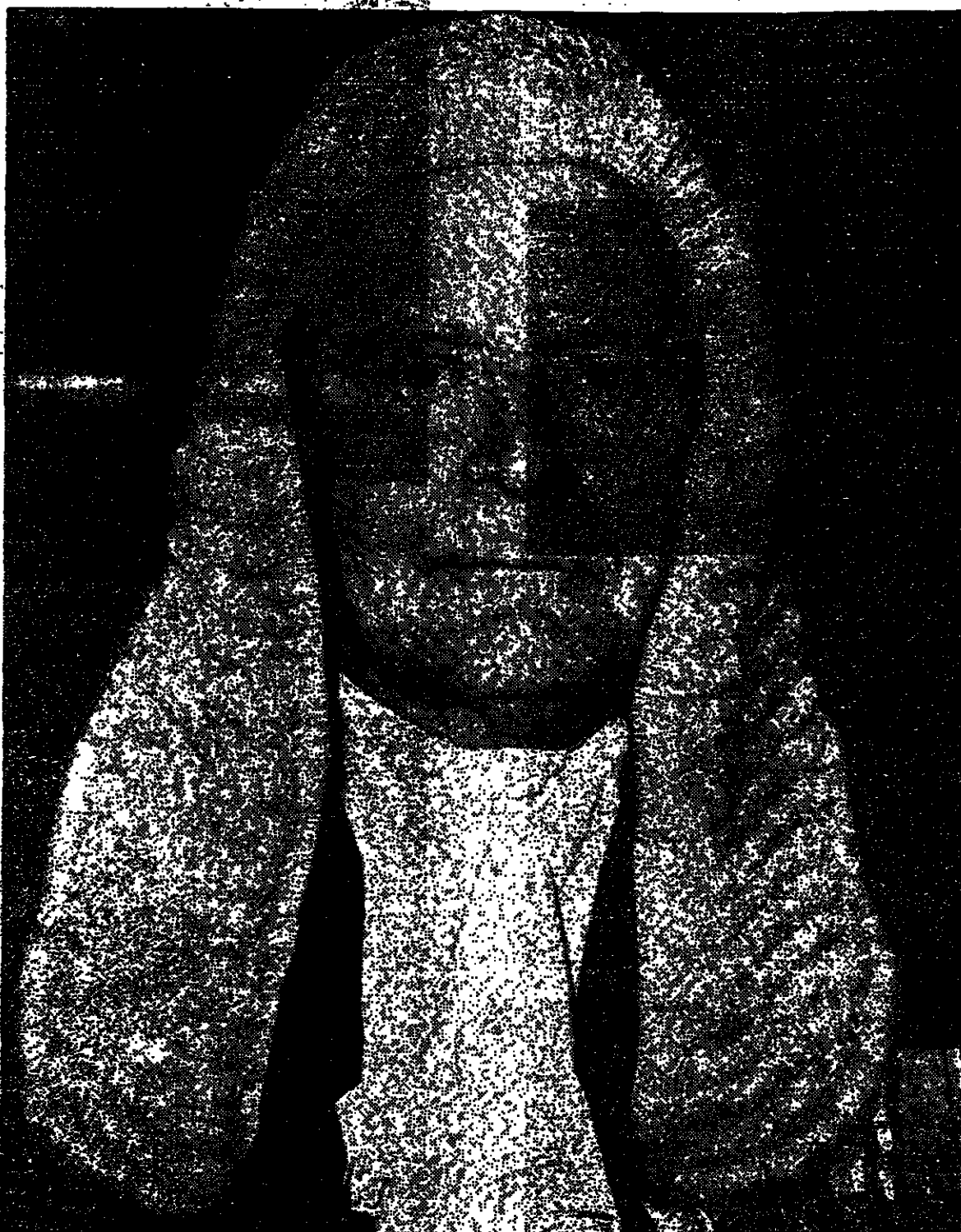
Jagger's conviction and three months' prison sentence provoked a famous *Times* leader, "Who breaks a butterfly on a wheel?", supporting Jagger's imminent appeal. "I think it was a very brave thing of *The Times* to do at that time. William Rees-Mogg reacted, as did thinking people, to the total injustice of it. The ordinary public just wanted to see Jagger go to prison". Sir Michael remembers. "And it was an important turning point in the law of contempt. The Attorney General of the day took no action against *The Times* on the basis that appeal judges were unlikely to be influenced by the article. That was a very important principle."

Havers took a long time getting to Parliament. He was already in his late forties when elected for Wimbledon in 1970, but he took only two years to become Solicitor General and was the obvious choice for Attorney General when the Conservative returned to power in 1979. His period in office has been associated by a succession of Conservative Prime Ministers, from Geoffrey Howe to Margaret Thatcher, with a reputation for competence and integrity. He was influential in Mrs Thatcher's decision to make Blair's treachery public.

"I knew that Blair was intending to take libel proceedings against Andrew Boyle's book *The Clientele of Treason* (which hinted at Blair's identity as the Fourth Man). In no circumstances was I prepared to see him obtain libel damages, perhaps £100,000, when we knew he was guilty. But how was the author to get the evidence? He wouldn't have been able to subpoena me or M15. I think the Prime Minister was determined, anyway, to be frank about Blair, but this threat of libel made it imperative. So she told the House."

'We must not allow people in sensitive positions to leak security matters'

The trial of Professor Hugh Hambleton, the Canadian economist, provided Sir Michael with his proudest courtroom moment. It was Havers at his forensic best. Hambleton had pleaded not guilty to passing NATO secrets to the Russians, and, as a witness, he had denied his evidence. Havers, stood up to cross-examine. For hours he quizzed, could questions, pressed the professor's character, deposed, night after night, the logical net around him until, dramatically, Hambleton broke



Sir Michael Havers: from sailor, lawyer, politician and writer to Attorney General

and confessed his guilt. "How often does it happen that a defendant turns around under cross-examination and says: 'I'm guilty. It's very rare. I'll never forget it.'"

Much of the criticism of Sir Michael, even allegations of political bias, have centred on his decisions to prosecute under the provisions of section 2 of the Official Secrets Act. He is totally unrepentant and unrepentant. "Those who obey the law and are honourable and discreet would become very fed up if they found that those who broke the law could do so without anything happening to them. I think it's very important that we should encourage those who keep the law."

He accepted that some Russian diplomat "sifted" in "sensitive" information to her Egyptian lover, was a relatively trivial offender, though he does not go as far as to accept that she should not have been prosecuted. For Sarah Tisdall, he has very little sympathy. Her action in leaking documents about the "Crisis" missile to *The Guardian* was, he feels, "a deliberate attempt to damage the country and to harm her colleagues". He feels that it is important that we don't allow people in sensitive positions to leak. It is not a test, even if it's only a security matter, it does mean the risk of

security material being leaked that much greater. He finds it offensive, if suggestions are made that his decisions over Tisdall and Ponting were partly founded on a political motive. He has never had difficulty, he claims, in divorcing his legal assessments from his political leanings.

Havers was convinced by prosecution and defence doctors that the Ripper was insane

He has made a point of playing down his political views on non-legal issues, so that his independence as a lawyer should not be seen to be compromised. As a result, it is difficult to place him in the customary wet-dog spectrum. He is pleased to let the public and many of his own colleagues remain ignorant. "You could ask any Cabinet minister what his view is on this or that, and he'll say: 'Funny you should ask, I just don't know.'"

That's a slight exaggeration. He has a strong view on the retention of capital punishment, though on the subject he has very strong views. He is a rule of law person, but in general, he is not a rule of law person. He is a rule of law person, but in general, he is not a rule of law person.

Public Prosecutions and with other counsel. When making the decision to drop the case against Dr Keith Hampton on the clearest indication from his judge after the first jury had failed to reach a verdict, and after he had indicated quite out of proportion to the facts that I was protecting a fellow Conservative member loomed very large in my mind.

So I discussed it with the Director of Public Prosecutions, who was a very experienced counsel, and we decided to drop the case. I was very much in a minority in the House of Commons, and I was very much in a minority in the House of Commons.

When I was in the House of Commons, I was very much in a minority in the House of Commons, and I was very much in a minority in the House of Commons. I was very much in a minority in the House of Commons, and I was very much in a minority in the House of Commons.

ent, however. These girls were often subjected to quite horrible mutilation, some of them being conscious at the time.

"Their families hadn't been told the awful details. I took the view that there could be a limited public interest - that of protecting the families of the victims from unnecessary anguish - which outweighed the public interest in having the full story told. It would not have made any difference to the effective sentence. It was clear that, whatever the charge on which he was convicted, Sutcliffe was going to be

'Being an appeal judge would be fascinating but I'm not a good enough lawyer'

imprisoned for life. So I decided to try to spare the families.

The trial judge refused to accept the guilty plea to the lesser charge, and insisted on the trial being held. "So we had a direction to complete the trial, and I accepted the instruction. I was now having to test it. It was a terrible shock to the victims' relatives when they learnt all the gory details."

What does a 61-year-old Attorney General do next? Sir Michael doesn't particularly want to be a High Court judge. "I think I should find it boring now after what I've done. Being a Lord Justice of Appeal would be fascinating, but I don't think I'm a good enough lawyer. I can master the sort of briefs I do here, but I'm not sure that I'm really Court of Appeal material."

Nor does he want to follow Sir Geoffrey Howe's precedent of moving into the mainstream of politics. "I don't think there is any other job that interests me."

So what remains the Lord Chancellor's political gossip suggests that Sir Geoffrey will be next to be replaced. When, and if, he gives his legal opinion on the Cabinet members will all believe that he is giving absolutely honest, objective advice, and not simply endorsing the camp.

The same principles make it extremely reluctant to consider any ministerial colleagues when making a decision whether to prosecute. "The only way to ensure that I am not biased is to consult a ministerial colleague. I decided not to do that, and I decided not to do that."

He is a man who has never been bitten by the Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, what the effect would be on our relations with the United States. He should not have been bitten by the Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, what the effect would be on our relations with the United States.

"If I think a decision might cause a problem, I should consult with a ministerial colleague. I should consult with a ministerial colleague. I should consult with a ministerial colleague."

Marcel Berlins

moreover...
Miles Kington

How to win at the office party game

All you ever need to know about office parties

What if you're going to an office party?

Unpleasant office parties are a disadvantage. Some people are just not meant to be in an office. If you are one of those people, you should be in a different office. If you are one of those people, you should be in a different office.

What if I haven't got a job and don't know any office?

Don't be foolish. Go into the nearest big office building and there is almost certain to be a notice in the foyer saying: "Don't forget the Xmas Office Party on Dec 20. Disco, etc." It will be decorated with hand-drawn holly leaves.

Why holly leaves?

They are the only kind of leaf that most people can draw. But this is a bit of a trick, isn't it? They are the only kind of leaf that most people can draw. But this is a bit of a trick, isn't it?

What if I don't know any office?

There are two basic kinds of office party. For one, a big room in the office is transformed by streamers, flashing lights and a tape recorder into a wonderland of noise, music and warmth, usually by the same long-suffering people who did all the work last year. You, the everyone, piles round to the pub. The advantage of the first is that the company pays for everything. The advantage of the second is that at least you get off the blasted premises for a while. That's why, incidentally, it is nicer to go to other people's office parties; you may not know anyone there, but at least you don't feel it's all part of work.

And how do I dress?

Oh yes, sorry. For the office building, wear something neat. For the pub, wear something showproof.

Can you tell superiors at an office party what you really think of them?

You can, but it's most unwise. A moment's pleasure will have to be paid for with a lifetime's regret, and you probably won't even remember the moment. Far better to worry your superiors by going up to them and saying unctuously: "I know you won't mind my saying, Sir, that I have admired your work terrifically this year and have learnt a lot from watching you." They will spend the rest of the evening wondering what you really meant.

Do you ever make making advances for strategies at parties?

Absolutely not. They haven't got into their party clothes to let a pipsqueak like you get his hands on them.

What should I talk about at the party?

British Telecom shares. You won't get a choice, actually - everyone will be talking about British Telecom shares.

As a free-lance journalist, will you often produce a form of self and

Yes. That's the normal working day. I shall probably go out and get some.

Seriously, do you have any advice about drink?

Yes. You can either pile into the drink straightaway and get very sick, or be sensible and take it slowly, in which case it will all run out before you've had nearly enough.

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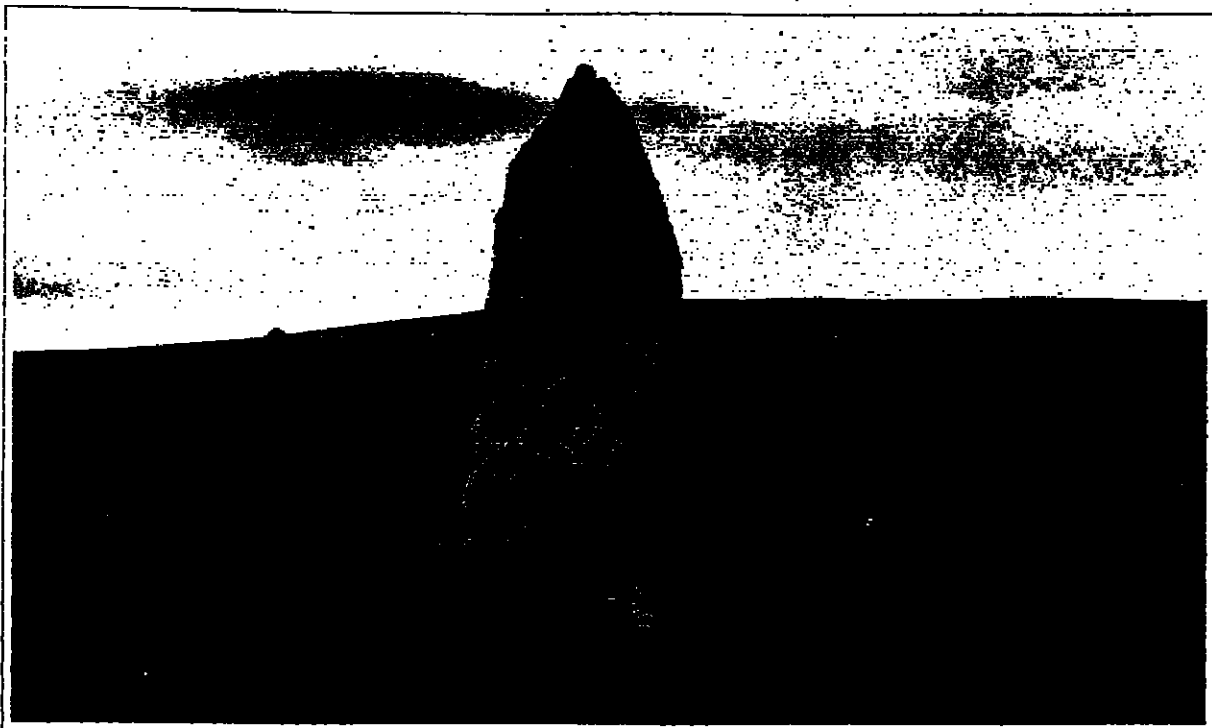
THE BEST FOR LESS

HIS LEGAL AND POLITICAL LIFE

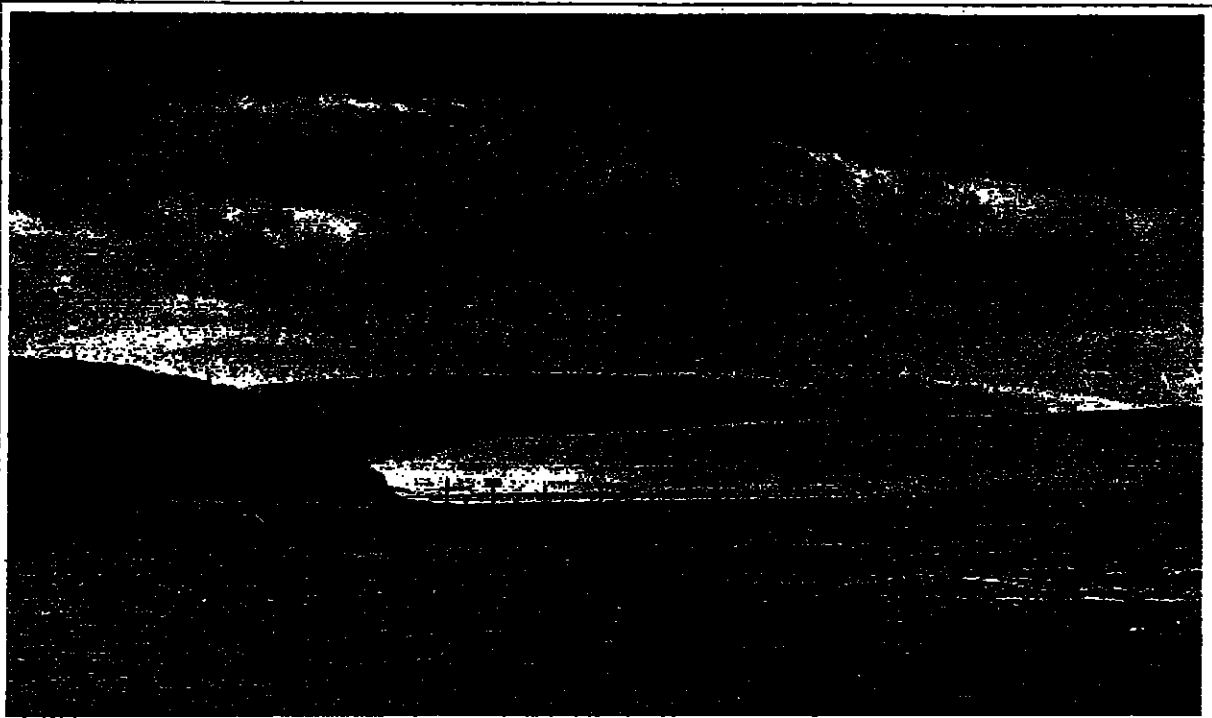
1923: Born 10 March. Educated Westminster School; Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. 1941-48: Service in the Royal Navy.

1948-50: Assistant Secretary General, United Nations. 1950-52: Shadow Attorney General. 1952-54: Shadow Attorney General. 1954-56: Shadow Attorney General. 1956-58: Shadow Attorney General. 1958-60: Shadow Attorney General. 1960-62: Shadow Attorney General. 1962-64: Shadow Attorney General. 1964-66: Shadow Attorney General. 1966-68: Shadow Attorney General. 1968-70: Shadow Attorney General. 1970-72: Shadow Attorney General. 1972-74: Shadow Attorney General. 1974-76: Shadow Attorney General. 1976-78: Shadow Attorney General. 1978-80: Shadow Attorney General. 1980-82: Shadow Attorney General. 1982-84: Shadow Attorney General. 1984-86: Shadow Attorney General. 1986-88: Shadow Attorney General. 1988-90: Shadow Attorney General. 1990-92: Shadow Attorney General. 1992-94: Shadow Attorney General. 1994-96: Shadow Attorney General. 1996-98: Shadow Attorney General. 1998-2000: Shadow Attorney General. 2000-2002: Shadow Attorney General. 2002-2004: Shadow Attorney General. 2004-2006: Shadow 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A RAMBLER'S GUIDE TO OUR NEW PIPELINE.



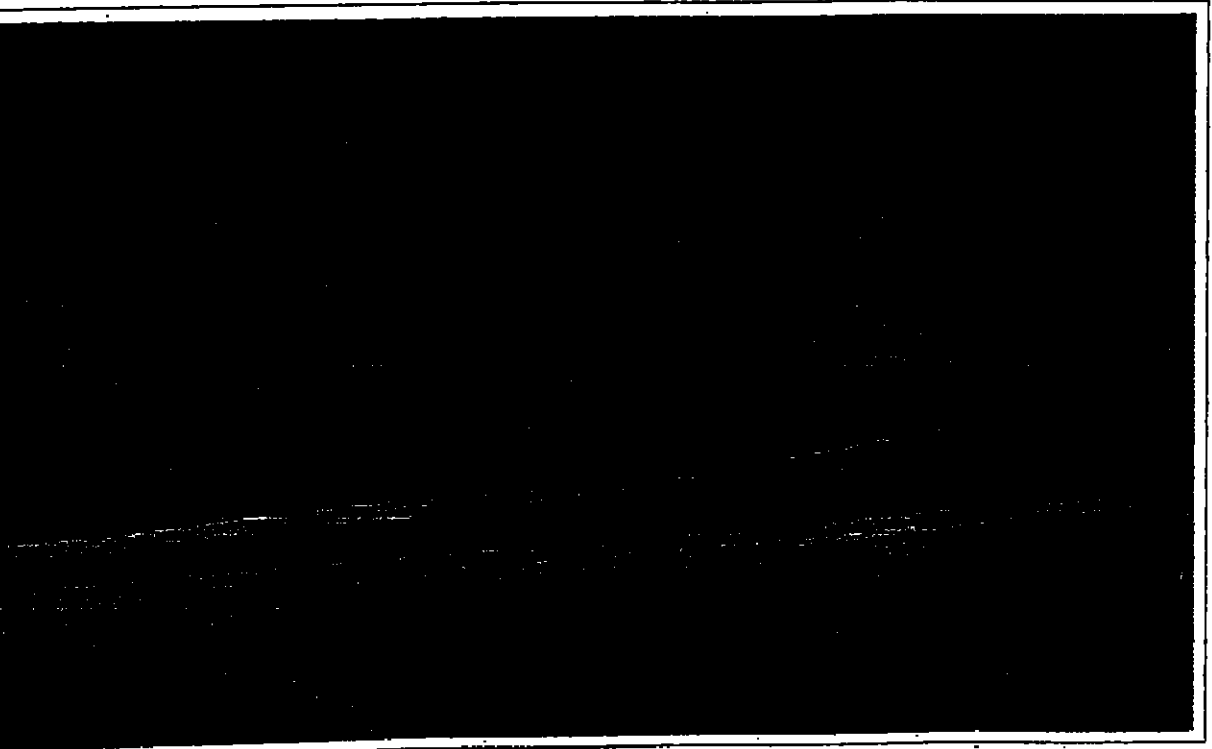
Our pipeline to Mossmorran begins at St. Fergus, travelling beneath the earth through the rich agricultural lowlands to the west of Aberdeen, and quietly past these ancient ritual stones.



Unaware of the pipeline's presence are the terns and other sea-birds that live in abundance around the peaceful waters of Meikle Loch, and in the stillness of the River Ythan estuary.



Slipping quietly past the beautiful Drum Castle, our hidden pipeline carries the gas liquids that are produced along with our oil and gas, over 350 miles away out in the North Sea.



These gas liquids, travelling unseen not so very far from the bloodied ruins of the dreaded Dunnotar Castle, will later be split into ethane, butane, propane and natural gasoline.



As we approach Glamis Castle, childhood home of the Queen Mother, the pipeline passes discreetly by. The gas liquids it transports will greatly benefit Britain for decades to come.



Past this eerie knoll where legend has it Macbeth met the three witches, our pipeline hurries by unsuspected and unseen. A feat we achieved with very little double, double, toil and trouble.



Before work could begin on trenching the pipeline into the bed of the River Tay, we made sure that the salmon who come here to spawn had finished their run upstream.



After 138 miles our journey ends at the vast Mossmorran gas liquids plant in Fife. We tucked it into the contours of the land, so that from many aspects, you might miss it altogether.

YOU CAN BE SURE OF SHELL



How the British sank their first Cognac Courvoisier.

Cognac has long been a favourite of the British.

As far back as 1780, Dr Samuel Johnson made the following observation:

Claret is for boys, port is for men. But cognac is a drink for heroes.

Be that as it may, cognac was certainly a favourite of one hero of the time.

Napoleon Bonaparte.

Courvoisier is the only cognac to be honoured with The Diploma Prestige de la France, the French award for excellence.

In fact his love of cognac was only outweighed by his dislike of the British. So the chances of the British getting their hands on the Emperor's favourite cognac, were somewhat slim.

Circumstances changed that.

In 1815, after his abdication, Napoleon arranged to leave secretly for the United States of America.

He loaded two ships with a variety of provisions, including cognac supplied by Emmanuel Courvoisier.

In 1860, Felix Courvoisier was appointed official purveyor of cognacs to the Court of Napoleon III.

Napoleon subsequently changed his mind and decided to give

Courtesy of Napoleon.

including the English, who were trans-ferred to the island, and the British officers who were sent to the island.

He was the only one for whom the British had a name.

Cognac is a drink for heroes. It is a drink for the British. It is a drink for the British.

All brandy is not cognac. Cognac can only be produced from the grapes of the Charente area of South West France, where conditions are ideal. Ordinary brandies can be produced anywhere, from almost any fruit.

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Le Cognac de Napoleon

The Born Leader

Opera

**Concert
Lutyens tribute
Wigmore Hall**

Nicholas Kenyon

No doubt all this, too, can be rationalized in written theses, but that is too late. Only William Shumell, the Donor, seems to possess the vocal and physical resilience to stand up to a staging which is essentially the inner, private ferment of a mind heady with hypotheses. A production, though, is a public act. If only Berghaus had remembered.

Hilary Finch

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London N7 9BE
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AIR FRANCE

For full details, see your travel agent or call Air France, London 01-499 9511; Manchester 061-436 3800.

THE TIMES DIARY

Stealing the show

There are hazards involved in hiring girls from escort agencies, as Liberal leader David Steel learnt to his cost on Tuesday night. He hadn't hired the girl. A fellow Liberal who must remain nameless had, and brought her along to the Alliance ball at the Intercontinental Hotel. During a lull before the cabaret she got up, walked onto the floor and began complaining about how the American actress Meryl Streep had taken her part in the film *The French Lieutenant's Woman*. Her dislike of people or things American extended, it seems, to cruise missiles, and she marched up to the table shared by Messrs Owen and Steel and their wives to tell them so. Steel told her to go away, whereupon she gave the Liberal leader two hefty clouts. She was finally escorted from the hotel, leaving Steel to nurse his injuries. They were fortunately not too serious. He stayed to the ball's bitter end - slipping out briefly to vote in the Commons - and was later heard to remark that he found Meryl Streep far more attractive.

Played

More from the Dennis Skinner school of charm and courtesy. To a Ms D. Morgan at the BBC the Beast of Bolsover writes: "I am in receipt of your invitation to attend *The World at One* and *P41 Christmas* reception on December 14. You must invite Thatcher so that all the BBC 'crawlers' can present themselves to Madame Dross in person, preferably on their hands and knees".

Revelations

Tam Dalyell tells me he has now sent a Christmas card back to the crew of the Conqueror. On it he has written Proverbs 20:17 and Proverbs 21:28. "Bread of deceit is sweet to a man, but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel", says the first. The second declares: "The false witness shall perish; but the man that heareth speaketh constantly".

Party peace

Organizers of last summer's ball at Worcester College, Oxford, are celebrating their successful defence of a prosecution for noise brought by the City Council. The council now faces huge legal costs, including a claim for £11,400 from undergraduate Christopher Norman who flew in a witness from Corsica. This will further enrage those councillors who opposed the prosecution in the first place. One of them, Liberal Michael Hart, pointed out that the ruling Labour group took no action over a deafening fireworks display at Headington Hall - the home of one R. Maxwell.

● Jaguar predicts a major upsurge in demand for its cars in America. The reason? After months of trying, its American sales company has persuaded the makers of *Dallas* to let newly-rich Cliff Barnes drive a £20,000 XJS. Now, perhaps, BL will attempt to persuade JR to swap his Mercedes for a Metro.

BARRY FANTONI



Lord's grounds

These are testing times for the Earl of Stockton. His Lord's speech apart, he has now been quizzed on television for the first time about his role in the repatriation of Cossacks, subsequently killed by the Russians, after the war. The interview - to be screened before Christmas - tells how Macmillan, as minister resident in Italy, was consulted in May 1945 by the British commander in Austria about the future of 40,000 Cossacks and White Russians who had links with the Germans. He agreed that the Allies' promise to hand back Russian subjects must be honoured. Questioned closely by Ludovic Kennedy, Lord Stockton confronted with his earlier admission that repatriation would condemn them to "slavery, torture and probably death" remarked "I was obeying orders".

Misadventure

Two judges, four barristers, a Home Office pathologist and a senior hospital doctor left Bodmin Court this week after 90-minute, £4000 wait for two juries that never turned up. A single misplaced digit was at fault. Someone typed December 14 instead of December 4 on their summons for jury service.

PHS

Christopher Thomas looks behind the result of Grenada's election

A vote for the big paymaster

St George's, Grenada Washington's hegemony over Grenada has been confirmed and reinforced at the ballot box. The American-backed government of Mr Herbert Blaize will swear allegiance to the Queen. The irony seems lost on little Grenada.

The new Grenada is largely American-made, an undeveloped tropical island elevated to dizzying global importance by the East-West conflict. Its incipient democracy has been guided discreetly but firmly by Washington, whose influence - together with its Caribbean allies - was perhaps decisive to the outcome of Monday's general election.

The British link is comfortably familiar, the American dollar full of promise. Both are embraced without any feeling of contradiction. Mrs Thatcher's failure to support Mr Reagan's invasion has been forgotten, if not forgiven. While a still-huffy Commonwealth secretariat declined to send observers to the election, Britain did so.

America feels the overthrow of the leftist dictatorship last year has been vindicated by the election of a moderate, US-backed government. The turnout of the 48,158-strong Grenadian electorate was a remarkable 84.9 per cent.

The New National Party, barely four months old, was formed during a secretive bargaining session with Caribbean politicians on Union Island, a dependency of St Vincent. Mr Tom Adams, prime minister of Barbados, and the prime ministers of St Lucia and St Vincent - all leading collaborators with the invasion plan - were present. The US was not represented in person, but its influence was vital in bringing about the three-party coalition that won the Grenadian election.

Mr Blaize, America's choice for party leader, was head of the Grenada National Party, traditionally a party of the middle classes. He is a solicitor, a tried and trusted



Grenadian victor: Herbert Blaize and his wife.

former prime minister when Grenada was a British colony.

The US sought the creation of the New National Party because it was determined not to be humiliated by the return to power of Sir Eric Gairy, the former prime minister, whose very presence in St George's taunted policy planners in Washington. The fear was that Gairy, a right-wing extremist, would inflame the island, perhaps resulting in another left-wing coup. That would be a stunning psychological blow to the US, after Vietnam, Watergate, Iran and Lebanon, the little spice island is its one shining victory.

The New National Party received several private American donations, much to the delight and encouragement of the US administration. The

party demonstrably had the most campaign money. Only the NNP has a smart neon sign over its new air headquarters in St George's. Only the NNP distributed large numbers of free T-shirts, glossy coloured posters, badges and stickers.

NNP banners straddled roads and hung from countless vantage points. They had the best loudspeakers. And in a touch of Americana that had people agog, the NNP even sent a light aircraft around the island two days before the election, trailing an advertising streamer. Grenadians have never seen anything like it, almost a vulgar gesture of extravagance in such a poor country.

Grenadians view the US as a big, benevolent paymaster. Now the election has been delivered they are

looking for rewards. America can make everything happen. It can make the lights stay on, it can rebuild the derelict roads, spray the mosquito, make tap water flow miraculously upon demand, and eradicate the disease that blights so many bananas. Such things are expected. Grenadians will be disappointed, even angry, if they are not forthcoming. As a Republican congressman remarked privately soon after the invasion: "We've just bought ourselves another Puerto Rico".

America came precariously close to overt interference in the election when it placed an advertisement in three local publications attacking Sir Eric Gairy's assertion that he and his Grenada United Labour Party had the support of President Reagan.

The wording was extraordinarily blunt. It said: "The US government protests the campaign of deception and falsehood concerning President Reagan... President Reagan does not support the Grenada United Labour Party or its candidates." The wording was telecast to the American Embassy in St George's direct from the White House.

Although the tactics may have been heavy, the outcome has satisfied most of the eastern Caribbean. Now that Grenada is led by the sound and steady Mr Blaize, private US investment is expected to start, although cautiously at first. The administration does not plan any huge sudden investment programme. Now the island is securely in the western sphere it must take its place in the Caribbean Basin Initiative, America's multi-million dollar aid programme for the region.

The tiny Grenadian economy - the annual gross domestic product is \$100m - is already reacting to the prospect of an infusion. A house in the smart, middle-class area south of St George's is now three times as expensive as a year ago, and a tourist shop has opened on St George's harbour.

Clifford Longley considers the growing talk of disestablishment

A church straining at the bonds of state

the unwritten rules of a cosy establishment club. Now these taboos have been broken, and the Church of England finds itself no longer fully accepted in that elite and confidential world.

The Church of England Newspaper, invariably more cautious in such matters than the *Church Times*, ended its last editorial, a discussion of church and state, by saying that if the church's demands for certain further freedoms from parliamentary control "cause Parliament to disestablish the Church of England, then so be it".

On the other side, the chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr John Selwyn Gummer, had swept aside the comfortable conventions when he criticised both the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, and Cardinal Basil Hume, in a speech in Cambridge the week before. Not long ago, such targets were off limits for such as him.

The quickest way to get a laugh out of a church committee or assembly at the moment is to say something wittily unkind about the chairman of the Conservative Party.

There is a new atmosphere of distrust. Many Conservative politicians adamantly believe that the Archbishop of Canterbury's famous interview in *The Times* was deliberately timed by him for the

opening day of the Conservative Party conference, to cause maximum embarrassment. It was in fact only the accident of full diaries which stopped it appearing a week earlier.

The Church of England's modest reform of the procedures for appointing bishops was ambushed late at night in the House of Commons; and the representation of the measure to Parliament a second time is a weapon in the church's hands which it is not yet sure when to use.

It takes two to quarrel, and there is not much reluctance among the leaders of the Church of England to keep their end up.

It is unlikely that a swift end to the miners' strike would instantly restore peace and harmony, for there was an unmistakable and steady deterioration in the relationship before the advent of that catalyst. But it is not beyond retrieval either, if the will existed on both sides. Something could be patched up, and disestablishment postponed for other generations to think about, if the Conservative Party and the Church of England each saw the perils ahead and resolved to avoid them. There is little sign of such an intention so far.

The Church of England has already, over the years, come a long way towards that total freedom from

parliamentary control which the word "disestablishment" stands for. It is sometimes called "creeping disestablishment", a leisurely and controlled process, marked by the steady progress of church-state commissions and inquiries.

It has reached the point where legal establishment now hangs on just three pegs: the symbolic role of the Crown as Supreme Governor; the right of Parliament to review and reject measures put forward by the General Synod; and the role of the Prime Minister in passing to the Queen one of two names tendered by the church when bishops retire.

On this latter custom depends the right of bishops to sit *ex officio* in the House of Lords; though it by no means follows that disestablishment would banish them all. The Government may well want to find other ways of providing the upper house with episcopal wisdom, so as to preserve that chamber's representative quality and forestall demands for radical reform or abolition.

What the church is finding intolerable is parliamentary jurisdiction over its internal business, particularly the thought that Conservative backbenchers can use parliamentary procedures to block church leaders. It is offensive to them in principle when it happens.

But it is not something Parliament could negotiate away, as one more step in the process of creeping disestablishment. It is at the very heart of the concept that the Church of England is "the church by law established" - and on it depends, as the Church of England will find to its chagrin, its cherished links with the Crown. The present Government is hardly in the mood to cooperate in seeking some ingenious constitutional solution that will allow the church to keep that legal link, while freezing it from its bondage to Parliament. It will be all or nothing.

Ronald Butt

No freehold on the House

Mrs Thatcher has been fortunate in her foes. In her first Parliament there was the giant inflation, menacing every family, to be overcome, followed by General Galtieri's act of tyranny to resist. In this Parliament, Mr Scargill has promoted a tyranny of a different sort which the British people are equally unwilling to stomach. They have thrown themselves so unanimously behind the Government's defence of the law and of parliamentary authority that victory seems only a matter of time.

So long as the battle raged with any doubt as to its outcome, it both distracted Mrs Thatcher's attention from other political dangers and, by monopolizing the headlines, distracted public attention from them as well. Increasing misgivings within the Tory Party were also suppressed out of a wish to give no hostages to a common enemy. Now that the victory of democracy seems only a matter of time, however, the Government becomes increasingly vulnerable to the charge that it has failed to respond adequately to the political threat from unemployment.

Until this autumn, the Government's belief that unemployment would fall as the economy recovered was accepted at face value by its supporters. Nobody believes this any longer. Although growth will quicken again to 3½ per cent next year (or possibly even to nearer 4 per cent) when the miners' strike is over, the unemployment figures will not fall with the rise in available jobs. Too many new jobs are not to the unionized industrial area where unemployment is concentrated but to the flexible and casual labour market elsewhere. Even assuming that improved growth feeds into the unemployment figures by, say, 1986 or 1987, the effect could be too little and too late to safeguard the Conservative Party from danger at the next election.

The decline of labour-intensive industries is a large part of the problem. But so is the immobility of British labour, in some cases out of cultural habit, in others because external factors such as lack of cheap rented accommodation inhibits labour mobility. Nor does the British social security system put a premium on the urgent search for jobs wherever they can be found.

Various ideas are abroad for giving government-financed jobs, useful to the community, to jobless people at a rate of pay manually above unemployment benefits. These could be useful palliatives but they do not tackle the essential problem, and Conservative MPs in Parliament are becoming increasingly restive. Many who have not been numbered among Mr Heath's or Mr Francis Pym's adherents are increasingly lending an ear to their advocacy of expansion through government spending.

The refusal of such a remarkable cross-section of Tory MPs to yield to Sir Keith Joseph's proposals for increased parental contributions to students' tuition and upkeep reflected more than dislike of what is seen as an unjust and capricious imposition on a small number of people.

More fundamentally, there is growing disillusion with sustained austerity. Until recently, economic austerity has been accepted with

varying degrees of good and bad grace. But the announcement of an exceptionally large September increase in the number out of work (to 3,283,640 or 13.6 per cent) was a watershed.

Conservative MPs complain that the mechanisms for moving the Government and party forward in tandem have broken down; that the Whips have been reduced to fire-fighting urgent conflagrations; that the Cabinet has been lulled into false security by the inadequacy of the Labour Opposition. There is deep discontent (also felt in the Central Office) with Mr John Gummer's party chairmanship; some Tory MPs say he does not even answer their letters. There is concern (shared by several Cabinet ministers) about the escalating cost of Trident II. But above all else there is the desire for a new government stance on unemployment and industrial relations.

The demand is easier understood than answered. For the Government to be scared into abandoning or relaxing its financial discipline in the hope of making jobs by government spending would produce no increased work commensurate with the inflationary risks. The latest phase of neo-Keynesian Reaganomics points a warning. The hope that the deficit would eventually produce growth which would subsequently absorb the deficit has failed. The deficit (financed by the rest of the world) remains despite the growth, and now alarm spreads in the US because of dramatic slowdown in growth despite the deficit.

The Government must, therefore, not be stampeded into foolishness; on the other hand, it must accept that its backbenchers have a political wisdom, drawn from their constituencies. It is warning Mrs Thatcher that the electors have not given her a freehold.

Next to unemployment, the government's chief problem is to decide how to approach the unions after the repulse of Scargillism. There must be some winning. The victory should be acknowledged owing to the law-abiding instincts of the trade union majority. Responsible trade unionism and industrial cooperation should be encouraged. Mrs Thatcher could do worse than consult directly some of the responsible trade union leaders individually about the nation's unemployment problem, to see what they think can be done by improving labour mobility and reducing restrictive practices in industrial consultation (not the same as using management's role) and share ownership should be encouraged so that there is a constructive management-worker relationship which does not depend on the adversarial stance of the shop steward.

The mass of trade unionists can find much to approve in Thatcherism: control over inflation, more realism and responsibility; less waste; more chance to take their own decisions. But unless the Government's approach to unemployment and industrial relations can command their assent, all that Mrs Thatcher has achieved will be at risk. The Tory Party must never forget that it holds office by the votes of millions of trade unionists and other working people.

Marghanita Laski

New word for an old feeling

In the latest batch of galley-proofs for the *Oxford English Dictionary's* new Supplement there is a terrible word, new to the English language. It is *Torschusspanik*, and it is defined as "Panic at the thought that a door between oneself and life's opportunities has shut".

Torschusspanik came, of course, like many not unrelated words - *angst*, *schadenfreude* - from the German, but it can be only very recently that it came. Its so-far-discovered first recorded usage in an English context was 1963, and, as so often happens, the pioneers did not appreciate the new word's potential. In the second of its three illustrious quotes, from *Time* magazine in 1977, the writer had thought no more of it than that it could name "mid-life crisis"; the third example adds nothing useful.

Perhaps - to be tolerant to these early users - *Torschusspanik*'s time had not yet come. It is here now. Life henceforth, whether read of or known, can seem little but a series of occasions for its use, from the moment that it is forced on us that we are not, after all, going to be the Most Popular Girl (or, it might be, Boy) in the Lower Third.

One can try to trivialize its terrors. Rooting for light or dark blue in the Boat Race, say, walking home through the alleys or by the main road, taking this book or that from the library shelves - can it really matter enough for *Torschusspanik* to come into play? But of course it can, once we have the word that tells us it might. The train that pulled out and I not on it is a world of terror now, though once no more than an interesting page.

Soon there is worse, with the realization that it is not, and perhaps never was, choice that determined which door opened, which shut. He was not fast enough, she was not funny enough, just hadn't enough charisma. There never was anything for that once pretty young girl now tiredly pushing her pram but the too-early marriage; the door to the secretarial course that might have taken her to the publisher or the BBC, to New York or Rio de Janeiro was perhaps never really open for her, any more than her now-defunct young husband had ever had the choice of the Foreign

Legion or, through evening classes in Chinese, heaven knows what prospects in Hong Kong. It may even be that when they look back on what once were hopes, but *Torschusspanik*.

It would be as well to have this name too - but small chance to use it, as against the imperatives of its antonym, *Not* - after all, good enough for a First *Torschusspanik*. Not, after all, the best of one's kind: *Torschusspanik*. Rejected for this, not thought of for that, our best possible, our surely excellent suggestion not preferred, given the chance and falling down on it and not likely to be given another - bang, slam, goes the door.

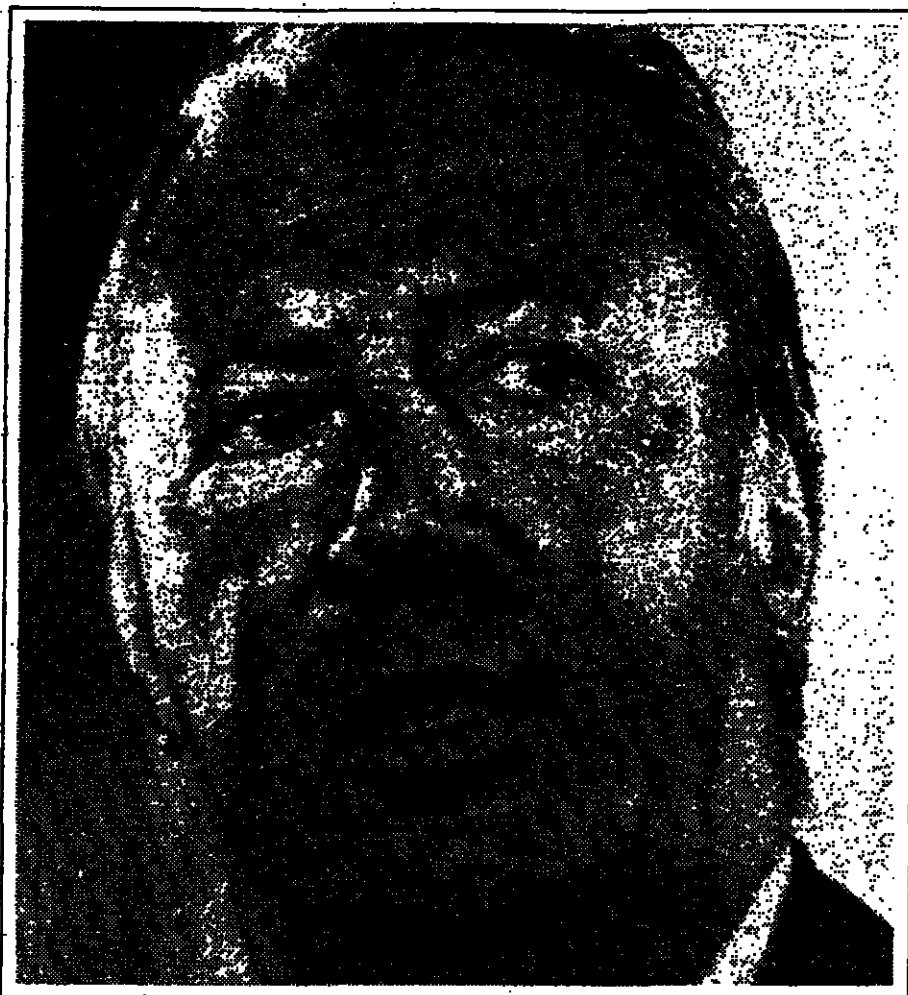
I knew three writers, three good successful writers greatly esteemed at their proper levels, each cornered by the realization that a Nobel Prize for Literature would never be theirs; if they had been Sardinian, say, or Sudanese, then maybe, but English - American - never a chance. Would it have been easier for them, I wonder, or harder, if they had been able to identify *Torschusspanik* when at last they had to come up against the closed door?

In the West at least there can be no escape from *Torschusspanik* whether we know the word or not. We set small store here on transcending passion, and so long as passion is not spent, a heavy thud reverberates at every rejection, and few the lives in which acceptance are the more common form. And always there is worse still to come. Nearly the last door has shut, and surely the most dreadful panic yet, when even the chance of rejection has gone: the commemorative clock, the goodbye party, perhaps recall for mumbled reminiscence on a look-back programme. *Torschusspanik* has taken over for all the time that remains.

There is no one of us who cannot fully imagine on the pulse, the last times we shall need the word, those days when they pay us the regular visit, remain for the obligatory hour they have set themselves and we know we can open no door to its extension, for we have nothing any more, to offer that they want; not ideas, not things, not any charisma at all. We shall be lucky, then, if we are beyond remembering what *Torschusspanik* means.

ADVERTISEMENT

Are the critics of ratecapping left-wing extremists?



When the new ratecapping laws were put before parliament, thirteen government MPs voted against their own party, including a former prime minister. Many abstained, including a former foreign secretary.

The Tory controlled council in Portsmouth are also among the most vigorous opponents of ratecapping.

In fact, the critics of ratecapping are drawn from all political parties. They also include distinguished academics, doctors and at least one senior police official. People who normally don't speak out on matters of exclusively party political concern.

Their chief objections are that ratecapping is undemocratic, unfair and fundamentally inefficient.

Ratecapping is undemocratic because it takes away your right to vote on local spending.

If your local borough sets rates that are too high for your liking, or if it fails to provide enough services, you have the right to vote them out.

But if you live in a ratecapped borough, it will be Whitehall that decides how much money is spent. And

nobody can vote out a Whitehall civil servant.

Ratecapping is unfair because some of the biggest overspenders in the country (judged by Whitehall's own figures) won't get ratecapped.

But five of the poorest boroughs in the country will.

Even though their needs are clearly greater, and despite the fact that their spending plans are often comparatively modest.

Ratecapping is inefficient because the figures Whitehall uses to judge local needs are inadequate and out of date (according to the government's own Audit Commission Report).

And in any case, it is impossible for a remote bureaucracy in Whitehall to make meaningful judgements about the needs of local communities.

Local government finance is complex, and in need of reform.

Ratecapping will make matters worse.

That's why thoughtful people from all parties and all walks of life have opposed the new laws.

They know that it is not the critics of ratecapping, but the ratecapping laws that are extreme.

Ratecapping makes no sense.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON RATECAPPING CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AUTHORITIES: BARKING AND DAGENHAM · CAMDEN · GREENWICH · HACKNEY · HARINGEY · ISLINGTON · LAMBETH · LEWISHAM · NEWHAM · SOUTHWARK · GLC · ILEA

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Unilever's 45 lead the pensioners' revolt

The sight of the high-principled Sir Keith Joseph bending in the gale of Conservative backbench rage against reduced student grants and increased parental contributions has put pension lobbyists in great heart. If Sir Keith and, more significantly, the Prime Minister, have been howled down over middle class education costs, would Mrs Thatcher and her Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, now contemplate an assault on pensions — an issue closer to more Conservative voting pockets than education?

Rightly or wrongly, the belief is widely held that the Treasury, in pursuit of extra revenue and a more neutral tax treatment of savings is planning to attack private pensions. The lions of insurance companies, which in this year's Budget lost the tax concession on life assurance premiums, are graced, their missiles already targeted on Westminster. But the gloomy awareness of impending change is much deeper than the insurance companies. Calculating members of occupational pension schemes, in particular those who have most to lose if the right to untaxed lump sums on retirement is taken away, are actively pressing to be allowed to retire not later than February, that is, before Mr Lawson does anything nasty in his spring Budget.

In one leading company alone, Unilever, 45 senior people at or above 55, the qualifying age, have expressed a wish to retire before the Budget. As they are in the high salary ranges they stand to lose between £50,000 and £100,000 each if the right to commutation is withdrawn.

There are three issues here. Potential losses of this order, most of us would agree, are too high a personal contribution to make to the cause of Conservative tax reform. Second, whatever the strict merits may be of not permitting tax free sums to be taken out on retirement, the fact is that financial planning for retirement is normally done on the basis of an expected initial lump sum. If that expectation was shattered, feelings would undoubtedly run high. Mrs Thatcher would be accused again of biting the hands that feed her majority.

The third issue is the damage that might be done if there is an exodus of over 55s from key positions in business. Even those who take the view that British industry would benefit from severe pruning in the higher managerial reaches might think that an indiscriminate wave of early retirements would be too much of a good thing.

Damning verdict for Warburg

Mr Justice Vinelott, one of the country's most acute judges in matters corporate, made a pronouncement of far-reaching importance this week when he delivered his damning verdict on the attempt by Currys and Scottish Amicable Nominees to thwart the legitimately-won battle by Dixons to take over Currys. Aside from the headache and worry imposed on Dixons' board and their advisers from Morgan Grenfell, the injunction was dismissed as "fanciful", "flimsy" and "ill-conceived", words which will ring in the ears of the corporate finance executives of S. G. Warburg for some time.

Warburg was the adviser to Currys. Its reputation in merchant banking circles has been distressingly damaged, when it is concerned to establish itself as the central pillar of a four-way merger with Rowe & Pimman, Akroyd & Smithers, and Mullens & Co. It is an unfortunate coincidence that Warburg has this year suffered two take-over defeats at the hands of Morgan

Grenfell, but that has only served to underline its temporary lack of touch. The case raises wider questions. There has been a disturbing tendency for a growing number of City disputes to reach the courts, some with more publicity than others. This is likely to increase with the advent of the regulatory structure for the financial services industry proposed by the Government.

Some will argue that this will have the virtue of exposing the City's backstairs dealings to the glare of public examination.

In the long run, such a trend will have a corrosive effect on confidence. If, at the end of every negotiation, there is the possibility of the parties ending up in court. Apart from anything else, it will be a lawyers' gala and expand the length of contracts to intolerable proportions.

Johnson Matthey faces long haul

Johnson Matthey's extraordinary meeting to approve the £25m capital injection and increase in borrowing powers gets off to an early start at 9.30 this morning. As this column has advised before, shareholders should clearly vote in favour of the capital injection. If this resolution failed it would jeopardize the credit lines agreed by the group's bankers and Johnson Matthey's future would then be even more uncertain. Deciding whether to take up rights to the convertible preference share issue is a tougher question.

At yesterday's price of 71p, the opportunity to subscribe for new shares at the equivalent of 56p looks attractive. But shareholders who opt for this course should do so with their eyes open. For all the technical expertise it embraces, Johnson Matthey's recovery and financial restructuring will be a long haul and the directors have been unable to rule out the possibility of further big provisions.

The other big uncertainty is BP. Although it paid more than £1 a share for its 3.57 per cent stake and would have to offer as much if it does bid, it may yet be forced to swallow the loss it is sitting on and walk away.

BP appears to be in a Catch 22 position. There is no indication that Charter Consolidated, which owns 27.9 per cent of Johnson Matthey, is a willing seller although presumably there is a price it would accept. However BP cannot make a reasoned assessment of Johnson Matthey and start talking figures without access to the platinum marketing and refining contracts between Johnson Matthey and Rustenburg Platinum. Rustenburg and its main shareholders Johannesburg Consolidated appears very reluctant to disclose anything about these contracts.

Mr Gordon Waddell, chairman of both Rustenburg and Johnnies is in London at the moment and it would be surprising if he does not meet at some point with the BP camp. However, given the sensitive information about the highly secret world of platinum pricing, and Rustenburg's marketing strategy which the contracts with Johnson Matthey are likely to contain, there must be doubts whether BP will ever learn much. After all, BP is a customer for platinum as well.

Both Johannesburg Consolidated and Charter Consolidated are of course connected through the Anglo-American/De Beers web and many are sceptical whether they would ever allow Johnson Matthey and its secrets into the hands of an outsider. One theory is that Charter may eventually bid for the rest of Johnson Matthey, although just at the moment it has more than enough problems on its plate.

GEC launches £90m raid to buy its own shares

By Philip Robinson

GEC launched a £90 million lunchtime raid on its own shares yesterday but failed to find many immediate sellers. Britain's largest electronics group with a £1.6 billion cash mountain said yesterday that it had decided it was more attractive to buy its own shares than invest in government stocks.

This is the first time a company of the size and stature of GEC, headed by Lord Weinstock, has moved to buy its own share since legislation allowed in 1981. It has authority to buy in 250 million shares.

When shareholders gave their permission in the summer analysts suggested that the company could pay up to 265p per share without penalizing its earnings per share.

GEC yesterday instructed stockbroker de Zoete & Bevan to buy up to 40 million shares (about 1.4 per cent of the total) at 228p per share. The offer went out just after midday with GEC having seen its share price fall further during the morning to 222p. The announcement immediately lifted the price to 230p.

However de Zoete were still standing in the market well after the official 3.30pm close of business and would say only that the response had been "satisfactory".

At one point market sources said that holders of only 12 million shares had accepted the offer. However the figure climbed to 25 million by about 5.30pm. GEC is due to make an announcement of the level at noon today.

The move caused at least one investment analyst to change his recommendation on the shares last night. He said: "I



Lord Weinstock: GEC shares more attractive than gilts

was going to recommend that institutions should not get overloaded with GEC and sell on any strength. But with this, the performance should be fairly strong in the short term and should be held."

However, one investment fund manager of an insurance group holding about 2 per cent of GEC worth £126 million, said: "I didn't find the price particularly attractive."

Mr Tom Heyes, investment manager of the ICI pension fund said: "There is logic in the GEC route. If a company honestly feels it cannot invest money to earn a better rate of return than its existing business then it should give the money back to shareholders in this sort of way. I wish more companies would do the same."

News in the summer that it was taking the power to buy its own shares helped lift the price from a year low of 160p. On Tuesday, GEC reported a 16 per cent increase in pretax profits for the six months to the end of last September to £332 million.

Full year profits to next March are expected to rise from £671 million to £780 million.

Investment managers resign

By William Kay, City Editor

Two of the financial world's leading investment managers have unexpectedly resigned. They are Mr Hugh Jenkins, aged 51, the director of superannuation investments at the National Coal Board, and Mr Stuart Goldsmith, aged 39, investment director of Britannia Arrow Holdings and managing director of the Britannia Group of Investment Companies, a significant force in the unit trust industry.

Both go with the good wishes of their employers, and neither has any firm plans for the future.

Mr Jenkins said he intends to enter the private sector and apparently has a new opportunity in the melting pot. He added: "I will make that known in the very near future, when I have got all the loose ends tied up."

Mr Jenkins has been with the NCB for 22 years, and has been responsible for what became the third biggest pension fund in the country in the wake of the pay rises awarded to the miners in the 1970s.

He explained that he had wanted to move as he had approached 50 years of age, but had to wait while Mr Arthur Scargill's court case against the fund was heard.

Mr Goldsmith has been at Britannia for 13 years, since it was the unit trust arm of Slater Walker Securities. He said: "I have decided to step back a little and see what's around." He denied he was joining forces with Mr Jenkins.

Shares in Dunlop Holdings suspended

By Ian Griffiths

Shares in Dunlop Holdings were suspended last night in preparation for an announcement of the agreed capital reconstruction package.

The target date is still December 19, when shareholders will learn of a dilution in their equity investment of up to 90 per cent.

The main reason for the share suspension is that the details of the reconstruction package will be circulated among the 47 banks supporting the tyre and industrial products group, which is crippled with debts of around £380 million.

Negotiations have so far been carried out by an advisory group of six bankers.

Sir Michael Edwards, chairman, believed to be visiting South Africa, but he intends to write to shareholders on his return to explain the reasons for the suspension and to prepare the way for the announcement of the reconstruction package.

A cancellation of existing shares with investors being offered one for 10 of the new capital is expected to result. The group also to raise £70 million of new money from existing shareholders and the institutions. A further £70 million of the bank's debt will be converted to equity and the group is expected to contribute around £100 million by way of asset disposals.

Mr Stanley Kalmus, Dixon's chairman, after the two month battle in the city and the High Court decision said: "There are no hard feelings as far as I am concerned and it is possible some of the Curry family will be staying on in the business in various capacities."

Mr Kalmus, who admitted there were times during the two-day hearing when he felt "less sure about the outcome" said: "Now it is all over I do not know what to do with myself. I have left the troops to handle it all now. But we are all committed to the future of the group. I am very confident about it."

Dixons, after a clean bill of health from the Takeover Panel, was able to declare its bid unconditional with 52.3 per cent acceptance. The Curry family speaks for about 35 per cent.

Currys, which yesterday issued a statement explaining why it had sought an injunction preventing Dixons from claiming victory last Friday, said that "against the background of confusion" which arose at the time it considered it to be in the best interests of shareholders that the position "be frozen until the true facts emerged".

Societies hit by Telecom

Building society net receipts dropped sharply last month to £400 million from the record £1.12 billion received in October, according to the Building Societies Association's provisional estimates. Although the intake is half that of November last year it will not affect the societies' view of deposit and mortgage rates.

The figure was affected by an estimated outflow of between £400 million and £500 million during the month as investors withdrew funds to put for British Telecom shares. The societies now expect that this month's receipts will increase as investors who did not receive their full Telecom share allocation return surplus funds. Many investors are likely to sell their Telecom shares early and return the proceeds to Building Societies.

Mortgage demand, at a level of £2 billion last month, remained strong.

Avon ahead

Avon Rubber, the tyres and industrial products group, has increased pretax profits for the year to September 29 to £3.5 million, up from £2.3 million and ahead of the forecast made at the time of the rights issue. Turnover rose from £177.8 million to £180 million. The final dividend to 3p makes 3p for the year, as forecast, against 3p last time. *Tempos, page 24*

Three resign

Guinness Peat confirmed yesterday that three non-executive directors of its banking subsidiary, Guinness Mahon, had resigned, after the decision to increase more closely the activities of the bank and holding company. The three are Mr W. L. S. Guinness, and Mr J. E. Nunez and Mr Mark Hoffman, who stays a non-executive director of the parent board. Mr Albert Ford has resigned as chairman of the bank and Mr Richard Fenbair, chief executive, is leaving at the end of the year.

Hungary loan

The National Bank of Hungary signed a \$300 million loan in London yesterday with a syndicate of 29 banks. The loan has a \$218 million (£178 million) multicurrency tranche and a 107.5 million European Currency Unit tranche, the first ECU borrowing by Hungary. The loan brings Hungary's gross borrowing to about \$2 billion this year. The year-end hard currency debt is put at \$4 billion.

Ship sales

BP Shipping plans to sell two of its very large crude carriers (VLCCs) now used as "mother ships" to 26 vessels in BP's ship-care service in Brunel Bay. The British Progress and the British Purpose, both 228,000 deadweight tons, have been in lay-up since 1978.

Charter may act on Cape loss

By Jeremy Warner

Charter Consolidated, the mining finance house, may be forced to support a capital reconstruction of its 67 per cent owned building products and automotive components offshoot, Cape Industries.

Cape yesterday announced that it had recorded an attributable loss of £33.2 million in the nine months to the end of last September after making provisions against closures and write-offs of £27 million. The effect has been to more than halve the group's capital base.

It is the second time in just over two months that a company associated with Charter has run into deep trouble. At the beginning of October a rescue package in which Charter is participating, had to be arranged for Johnson Matthey plc after huge bad debts were discovered in its banking offshoot.

Cape said that it continued to have the support of its principle bankers and that discussions were taking place to decide on the level of additional capital that may be necessary to ensure the continued development of the company's main businesses. Charter confirmed that it would support any such capital raising exercise.

The £27 million of provisions relate mainly to the cost of closing the company's glass wool insulation plant at Watlington, Tyne and Wear with the loss of 400 jobs.

The group is also closing its metal cladding operation at Watford, Hertfordshire. *Tempos, page 24*

£130,000 stolen from 'Bancomat'

Milan police yesterday arrested two men in connection with the most sophisticated crime ever mounted against Italy's banking system, a simultaneous theft from about 1,000 automatic Bancomat cash dispenser points.

Italian banks are proud of Bancomat, which enables account holders at 360 different banks to draw cash from each other's street dispensers with the help of a magnetized plastic card and a secret number.

The withdrawals were all made from the account of an anonymous customer in Milan. The total removed was over 300 million lire (£130,000).

£4.5m John Brown loss

By Our City Staff

John Brown, the ailing engineering company, continues to make losses, but it is winning the battle to return to profit. It reported a loss before tax of £4.5 million — half of what it was a year ago.

The group is making progress in implementing the corporate plan, introduced in January to pave the way for recovery, but attempts to reduce borrowings of around £110 million were thwarted in the first half by the weakness of sterling.

Mr Alisa Gormly, group managing director, estimated that around £10 million had been added to total debts on conversion of dollar loans.



Hugh Jenkins entering the private sector

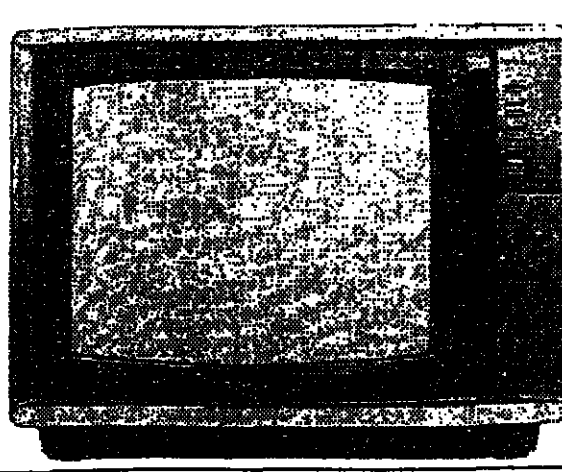
If you don't own a single share you can still afford a complete set.

Look what happens when you make a television as reliable as a Sony Trinitron. People automatically think it'll be expensive.

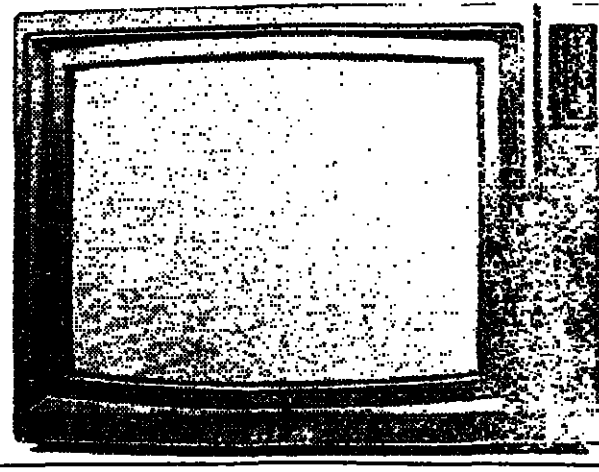
Not so.

You can get a 20" for only £299.95 and a 22" with remote control for only £399.95. Maybe the best investments are on this page.

SONY.



£299.95.



£399.95.

MARKET SUMMARY		
STOCK MARKETS	MAIN PRICE CHANGES	CURRENCIES
FT Index 914.9 (-2.6)	RISES:	London Close
FT 100 23.88 (+0.08)	Oscaro 125 +30	£: \$1.2085 down 25pts
FT All Share 567.87 (-0.35)	North British Steel 9 +2	£: DM 3.72 (+0.0175)
FT-SE 100 1183.4 (-0.40)	Beaufort 71 +14	£: SwFr 3.0780 (+0.0160)
Deutsche 108.15 (-0.12)	Burgess 34 +18	£: FFf 11.4050 (+0.0775)
New York 1175.24 (-9.83)	Eglington 55 +10	£: Yen 288.18 (+0.43)
Tokyo 11,543.19 (-34.25)	Howard & Wyrnham 4 1/2 + 1/2	£ Index 74.7 (unchanged)
Hong Kong 11,336.08 (+10.88)	Checkpoint 185 +35	
Amsterdam 178.9 (-0.1)	Clifford Dry 138 +15	New York (close)
Sydney 737.77 (ns)	Martvale 238 +28	£: \$1.2052
Frankfurt 1102.8 (+0.1)	Halford 82 +9	£: DM 3.0787
Brussels 168.52 (+0.56)	Early 53 +8	\$ Index 142.4 (+0.2)
Paris 182.5 (+0.5)	Bryson Oil 100 +10	
Zurich 317.90 (+2.00)	Canvamoor 88 +8	
SKA General 317.90 (+2.00)	Applied Botance 8 + 1/2	
		INTEREST RATES
		London:
		Bank Base 9 1/8 - 8 1/8
		3-month Interbank 9 1/8 - 9 1/8
		3-month Treasury Bills 8 1/4 - 8 1/4
		Long bond 102 1/2 - 102 1/2
		US:
		Prime Rate 11.25 - 11.50
		5-month Treasury Bills 8.47 - 8.43
		Long bond 102 1/2 - 102 1/2

A CHRISTMAS APPEAL FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BORED.

In my capacity as Chairman, I feel duty bound to bring to the attention of fellow Directors, employees and shareholders (and my wife Deirdre) the very real threat posed to the dull Christmas by the House of Hardy in Pall Mall.

In previous years we have been able to look forward to Christmases of unbroken monotony. Indeed, we have been instrumental in furthering the ritualised exchange of uninspired, unappreciated Christmas presents. As you all know, last year was particularly successful.

The House of Hardy Compleat Angler may forever change the complacent face of Christmas. In sincere gratitude may become a thing of the past.

I have been so concerned by the far reaching implications of The Compleat Angler in the traditionally moribund Christmas market that I visited the House of Hardy shop in Pall Mall (where incidentally, I was horrified by the sheer abundance of interesting and exciting Christmas gifts, for the shop not only stocks a bewilderingly impressive array of fishing equipment but also carries an extensive range of countrywear). After thoroughly examining The Compleat Angler I am now convinced that it is the most significant challenge to a gloomy yule.

It will be a salutary lesson for us all to consider in detail why The Compleat Angler is such a fine Christmas present. I believe the outfit to be so comprehensively cunning that it will appeal to novice and experienced anglers alike. I also fear that it will woo and win the hearts and minds of marketing men everywhere who will quickly realise its potential as an incentive package. (I have a notion that their



enthusiasm will be truly terrifying when they learn that the House of Hardy will personalise large corporate orders.)

I am not overstating the case when I say that The Compleat Angler even threatens to open up the world of fishing to those who have only dreamt of it.

To understand the many and subtle attractions of The Compleat Angler, we must first consider its most vital element: The Smuggler Rod. This remarkably versatile handbuilt seven piece rod (which slips effortlessly into any executive briefcase) measures only 15 inches in its constituent parts and yet easily assembles to 8 feet 2 1/2 inches.

(I need hardly point out how appealing this makes it to anyone wishing to combine business with pleasure.)

As The Smuggler is fashioned out of hand crafted carbon fibre, and as all the

joints incorporate Hardy's patented spigot ferrules the rod is extremely strong and yet affords the most delightfully smooth action.

(Bear in mind also that) The Smuggler is attractively finished in deep burgundy with tyings of ruby silk tipped with scarlet, has matching brown and gold coloured anodised fittings, as well as a handle of the finest specie cork—and you will begin to appreciate why The Compleat Angler has so much to recommend it. (You will also understand why The Smuggler won the highest praise at the prestigious 1984 Japanese Good Design Awards.)

It will come as no surprise to learn that The Golden Prince Reel, which perfectly complements The Smuggler, also won an accolade from the Tokyo jury.

For The Golden Prince Reel not only looks impressive but (alas) performs most impressively and incorporates latest developments in reel technology. With an exposed rim for finger-tip control and an advanced check mechanism (ingeniously housed within the arbor of the spool) it allows greater line capacity and quicker retrieve.

Not content with supplying one fine reel, House of Hardy (infuriatingly thoughtful as ever) have supplied a spare spool, thus allowing anglers to quickly change lines. Furthermore, the Reel and Spare Spool are supplied with Hardy No. 6 Floating and Sinking Lines respectively, with

backing line ready for use. The Spare Spool even comes supplied with a protector band to keep the line in place when not in use.

(To add insult to injury) House of Hardy round off The Compleat Angler by supplying a superb aluminium lined leather rod case, a shower-proof cloth partitioned bag, a sturdy hand-stitched leather reel case and sheepskin lined hand-stitched leather fly wallet. Regrettably the whole outfit is made even more seductive by being contained in a handsome royal blue and gold presentation case.

Gentlemen, (and Deirdre) I have no alternative but to conclude that at £350 The Compleat Angler makes the prospect of a dull Christmas look distinctly bleak.

(Eh Deirdre... or do I have to wait until I retire?)

HOUSE OF HARDY
61 PALL MALL LONDON SW1



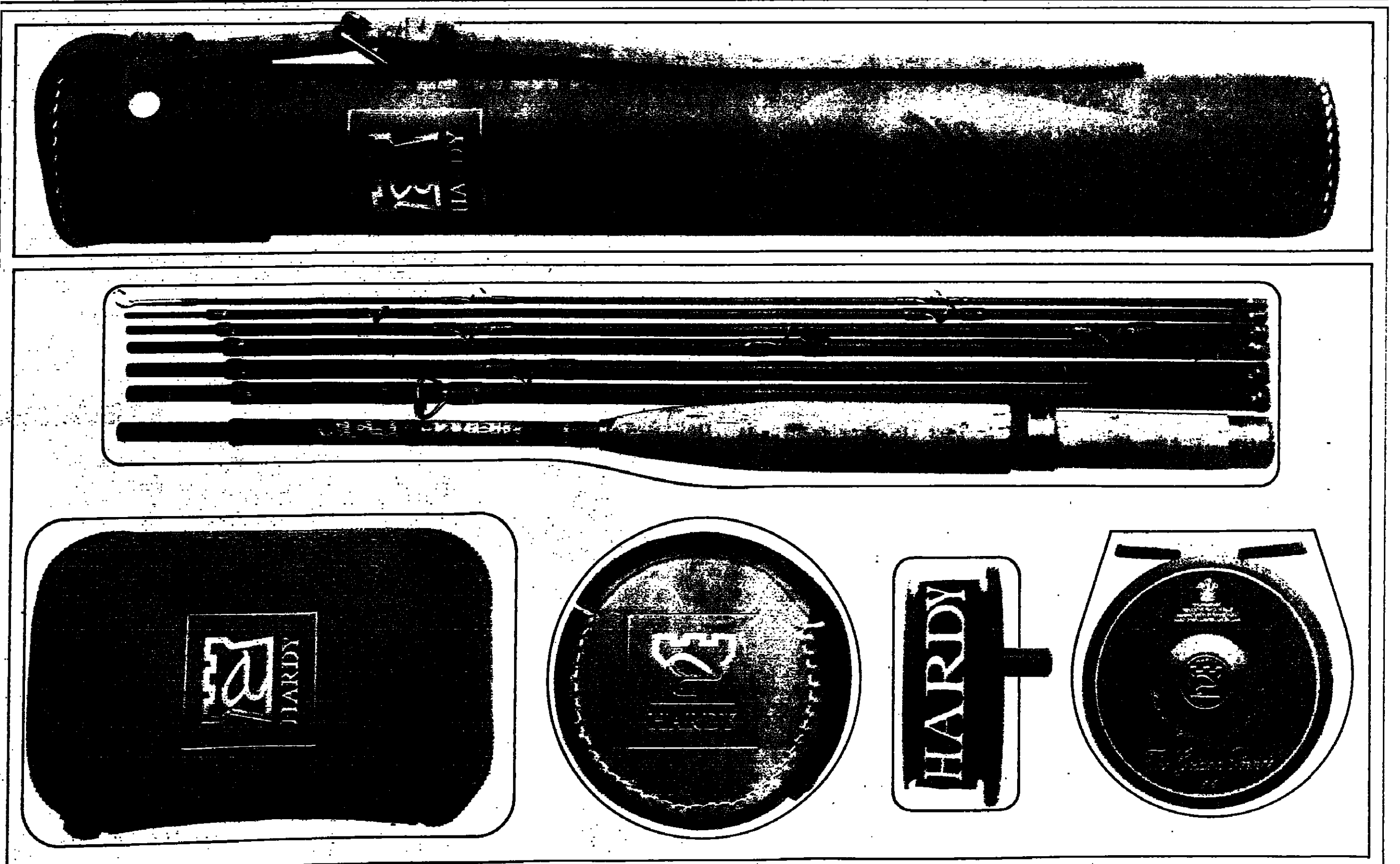
THE COMPLEAT ANGLER IS AVAILABLE FROM THE HOUSE OF HARDY, 61 PALL MALL, AT £350 INCLUDING VAT.

WE ARE OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM, AND ON SATURDAY 9AM-1PM.

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IF, FOR ANY REASON, THE COMPLEAT ANGLER SHOULD FAIL TO SATISFY, PLEASE RETURN IN ORIGINAL PACKING TO THE HOUSE OF HARDY WITHIN 28 DAYS FOR A FULL REFUND. PLEASE VISIT THE HOUSE OF HARDY AND EXAMINE OUR COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF RODS, REELS, ACCESSORIES AND COUNTRYWEAR CLOTHING.

"THE HOUSE OF HARDY COMPLEAT ANGLER MAY FOREVER CHANGE THE COMPLACENT FACE OF CHRISTMAS"



Scapa Group

Suppliers worldwide of engineered fabrics and rolls for the paper making industry, felts and other specialised industrial textiles.

Interim Statement

Trading in all areas was buoyant for the whole of the six months and the Directors believe these conditions will continue for the remainder of the year.

Results to 30 September	1984	1983	1983/84
Turnover	£m	£m	£m
	75.5	58.4	125.8
Operating profit	14.2	9.0	21.4
Interest	(1.8)	(1.3)	(2.5)
Profit before tax	12.4	7.7	18.9
Dividends per share	3.7p	3.15p	9.15p

Scapa Group plc,
Oakfield House, 52 Preston New Road
Blackburn BB2 6AH

Shops leave High Street for the race track

By Judith Huntley

New trends in shopping are causing a property shake-up

The City of London's financial institutions may be going through a revolution but a widespread and fundamental change is also sweeping through the retail sector with significant implications for the property market.

The pressure is on to find plum out-of-town sites for ever-larger stores: prices are going sky high with the top games in the food and do-it-yourself

fields bidding against each other for the few available prime locations.

It is hard to see how some of these prices can be justified, but the companies which obtain good sites are not only locating themselves to pick up the lion's share of trade, they are also ensuring their competitors do not get a look in.

Sunday trading is likely to increase the contest for sites on which to build large stores with generous surface car parking. Here planners have the upper hand.

There is an avalanche of planning applications in the

pipeline for edge or out-of-town superstores and some of the food retailers are putting in applications for sites on a blanket basis in the hope that a few will materialise, and most have ambitious development programmes.

However, the food groups may be overshadowed by the DIY, furniture and electrical goods companies which are also looking to move out of the High Street, their traditional home.

The Unit of Retail Planning Information believes that the boom in food superstores could be slowing but that the other retailers are just beginning to start their shift outwards.

The decision by Marks and Spencer to develop some out-of-town stores - the first in the Gathead enterprise zone where the company will receive a 100 per cent capital allowance - highlights the structural changes in the retail sector.

The chain's work with Tesco to develop on the same site appears to have been prompted by its need to benefit from Tesco's experience in winning planning permission for an edge-of-town site near Bristol but it looks unlikely to be a joint operation as Tesco is building an 82,000 sq ft store at the Eastgate centre, within Bristol city's limits next to the M32 motorway.

The Eastgate centre, an industrial and commercial



The Carroll Group has let its 2,100 sq ft refurbished office building, left, at 48 Bishopsgate in the City of London to Cogent, a wholly owned subsidiary of Legal & General Assurance for close to the asking rent of £50,000 pa. Cogent was set up by L & G to do technology transfer from research institutes to the market. Hillier Parker acted for the Carroll Group and Weatherall Green & Smith for the tenant.

GRA Group, which owns several stadiums, will be able to turn its assets into a very lucrative proposition. There will no longer be greyhounds racing around the tracks at Slough, Berkshire, White City in Manchester, or Shawfields and Harringey in London.

The four stadiums are to be bought by household names in the food business: Tesco has agreed terms for the Slough site and J Sainsbury at Harringey, and Asda at Shawfields, and in Manchester are front runners for the others. All will be bought on condition that planning permission is granted.

Where does this leave the High Street? Tesco, Marks and Spencer and J Sainsbury have all said they will not desert the High Street. Indeed, they could not afford to undermine their very large property investments.

There must be doubt as to whether High Street properties can sustain the rental growth that they did and in this case the yields on some recent deals are looking far too low.

The competition from new out-of-town stores which can afford Sunday opening and the newer breed of covered shopping centre will hit companies with outdated retail property.

They will have to look to their landlords if they are to sustain what have been extremely good investments.

The Border & Southern Stockholders Trust p.l.c.

Asset value and earnings at record levels

Highlights of the year ended 30th September 1984

- ◆ Net asset value increased to 195.4p per share - up 17.1%
- ◆ Share price increased to 145p - up 35.5%
- ◆ Earnings per share increased to 3.52p - up 7.3%
- ◆ Dividend increased for 11th successive year
- ◆ £15 million raised by debenture issue

"We believe that the spread of our interests in expanding industries and companies across the world will provide shareholders with a balanced and progressive investment"

Woodrow to ask £8 for Swindon offices

● Taylor Woodrow Property Company is hoping to obtain a rent of £8 a sq ft at its 47,280 sq ft office building, Delta 100, on the Delta Business Park, Swindon, Wiltshire. The 30-acre business park, a joint development between Taylor Woodrow and Thamesdown Council will have a total of 370,000 sq ft of office on flexible letting terms.

The scheme has planning consent which allows for a range of uses compatible with the low-density, highly landscaped scheme. Two more speculative buildings are planned. Delta 1200 will have 27,700 sq ft of offices and Delta 200, 36,940 sq ft of space. The letting agents are Richard Ellis and J P Sturge & Sons.

● Trafalgar House has established a commercial paper programme in the US through its American holding company, Trafalgar House Inc. It is backed by a credit line of up to \$50 million (\$40 million) from Bank of America National Trust & Savings Association. The commercial notes will be issued by Bank of America Trust Company, New York.

The proceeds of the issue will

INTERIM STATEMENT

BRITISH AIRWAYS

A SUCCESSFUL HALF YEAR

PRE-TAX PROFITS UP 26%

The Board of British Airways Plc announce the unaudited results for the 6 months ended 30th September 1984.

Group Results	6 months ended 30 September unaudited 1984	1983	Year ended 31 March audited 1984
Turnover	£m	£m	£m
Operating	1491	1298	2382
Other	82	99	132
	1573	1397	2514
AIRLINE OPERATING SURPLUS	236	198	274
Operating loss on other activities	(2)	(2)	(6)
Other income, including related companies	26	8	25
PROFIT BEFORE INTEREST AND TAXATION	260	204	294
Interest payable	(48)	(54)	(106)
Currency profit (losses) (see Note 1)	(23)	-	(3)
Profit before taxation	189	150	185
Taxation (Note 2)	(2)	(1)	(4)
Profit for the period before Extraordinary items	187	149	181

The unaudited results for the periods of six months ended 30th September 1983 and 1984, have been determined in accordance with the accounting policies used for the year to 31st March 1984.

The following should be noted:

(1) The sterling US dollar rate has fallen during the 6 months to 30th September 1984 from \$1.44 to \$1.24. As a consequence there is a charge to Profit and Loss accounts of £23m in respect of increased liability on US dollar general purpose loans.

US dollar loans and finance raised specifically for the purpose of financing aircraft and the corresponding dollar cost of those fixed assets have been increased by £50m as a result of the decline in the value of sterling in the period.

The effect on the depreciation charge is not material.

(2) No provision is required for UK Corporation Tax, because of the availability of losses brought forward. On present estimates it is unlikely that any provision for deferred taxation will be required in the foreseeable future. The charge of £2m is in respect of overseas taxes and tax attributable to related companies.

Commentary

The volume of scheduled airline traffic in this half year increased over that for the 6 months ended 30th September 1983 by 11.4% in terms of passengers and 9.6% in terms of revenue passenger kilometres. These gains have arisen throughout the network with few exceptions.

Freight, mail and charters were also buoyant in spite of lower sterling, the increase in average yield was more modest at 4.8%.

Consequent upon the 2 year pay agreement which took effect from 1st January 1984, staff salaries have increased, and there have been further expenditures on improvements in passenger services. Depreciation has also increased as new aircraft continue to replace others whose book value had been previously written down to nil.

Despite these factors expenditure has risen at a slightly slower rate than revenue.

The effect of changes in exchange rates on the Airline Operating Surplus is de minimis and the adverse effect on the profit before taxation is £3.5m.

During the half year loan repayments amounted to £204m. The effect of the fall in the value of sterling against the US dollar increased the sterling value of the US dollar loans by £73m with the result that the total bank borrowings only declined from £901m to £770m.

Outcome of CAA Report

An announcement was made on 5th October 1984 about the outcome of the CAA Report of July 1984. Arrangements are being made to implement the agreements that were concluded, to take effect on 1st April 1985, subject to obtaining the necessary governmental consents.

"This statement represents abbreviated accounts. The company intends to maintain its accounting reference date of 31st March. Comparative figures for the year to 31st March 1984 have been extracted from the audited accounts of British Airways Board and its subsidiaries, upon which the auditors issued an unqualified audit report. A copy of these accounts has been delivered to the Secretary of State for Transport."

THOMSON GROUP

Growth at home and abroad.

- LARGER SHARE OF WASTE COLLECTION MARKET
- PRE-TAX PROFIT UP 69%
- DIVIDEND UP 52%
- ACQUISITION IN US
- INCREASED AGGREGATES SALES

In his Annual Review, Chairman David Wickins reports the Company have increased their share of the waste collection market and that new landfill sites have been added to ensure adequate capacity for the future. He also reports the Company have benefited from the rationalisation and consolidation of its interests during the last two years for the year ended 31st July, 1984 Group profit increased 69% to £1,702,000 whilst a final dividend of 2.5p made 3.5p for the year represents an increase of 52%.

Commenting on future prospects, and in particular, the big push into America, Chairman says, "Your directors believe the benefits to be derived from purchasing INDUSTRIAL WASTE SERVICE, INC. are considerable. Florida is the beginning of the sunshine belt of America and whereas the population in some northern States remain static, the residential and industrial growth of Florida has been outstanding and is continuing at a fast pace. Attwoods will continue to expand with it, if not faster."



Attwoods plc
Copies of the Report & Accounts are available from: The Secretary, Attwoods plc, Stockley Road, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 8ND. Tel. (08954) 45122.

● Norwich Union Insurance's £100 million policy to insure the London's Shoe Lane, 14 to 16, is the first to be taken out by a company in the insurance market. Norwich Union is the underwriter of the policy.

● Barclays Life Assurance, the main shareholder in the London's Shoe Lane, 14 to 16, is the first to be taken out by a company in the insurance market. Norwich Union is the underwriter of the policy.

● The £100 million policy to insure the London's Shoe Lane, 14 to 16, is the first to be taken out by a company in the insurance market. Norwich Union is the underwriter of the policy.

● The £100 million policy to insure the London's Shoe Lane, 14 to 16, is the first to be taken out by a company in the insurance market. Norwich Union is the underwriter of the policy.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Adam & Company	9 1/2 %
Barclays	9 1/2 %
BCCI	9 1/2 %
Citibank Savings	11 1/2 %
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2 %
Continental Trust	9 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %
Citibank NA	9 1/2 %

1 Mortgage Base Rate.
2 7 day deposit on terms of under £10,000, 6 1/2 %; £10,000 up to £20,000, 7 1/2 %; £20,000 and over, 8 %.

The world's favourite airline.

RUGBY UNION: AN IMPORTANT WEEKEND AHEAD FOR ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND AUSTRALIA

Australia stay the same for Scotland

By David Hands

The Australian management predictably named the side which beat Wales decisively for the final international of their tour against Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday. The only change in the squad of 21 is among the replacements, where Lane, who has enjoyed a good tour at centre, comes in instead of Burke.

With the exception of Moon, the Australians have had a tour remarkably free of injuries, which has allowed them to choose virtually unchanged teams for the internationals. The only enforced change was the selection of Roche instead of Coderoy on the flank against Ireland but Coderoy, the bigger man, was restored against Wales and keeps the place in the team which is going for a first grand slam.

Burke was the immediate replacement for Moon after the left wing broke his arm against England, but he in turn gave way to Grigg against



Grigg: experienced

Wales. I imagine it is Grigg's experience as much as anything which keeps out Williams, the very promising Sydney University wing, who has scored four tries in his four games. Williams, aged 21, has made a distinct impression as an attacking player since joining the tour as Moon's replacement but his defence still has certain limitations.

Two former England players, Dodge and Cusworth, return to the Leicester side to play Blackheath at Well Road at the weekend. Cusworth was injured playing for the Midlands against the Australians a month ago but his return will help lift a side preparing not only for the annual Christmas encounter with the Barbarians but a difficult John Player Special Cup tie with Bristol a month later.

AUSTRALIA: R G Gould, P C Grigg, A G Slack, captain, M P Lynch, D I Campbell, M G Ewa, M G Parr-Jones, E E Rodriguez, T A Lawton, A J McInyre, S A G Coderoy, S A Williams, S A Foden, D Coderoy, S N Tynman, R G Reynolds, M J Lister, S Peadar, R G Reynolds, J W Black, T A Lane, P A Cox.

President dies

George Wakeham, the president of Plymouth Albion, has died after a long illness. He was associated with Plymouth Albion for nearly 50 years, the last 12 as president.

Agar seeks support as the time comes for a change in direction

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The Rugby Football Union's committee meeting tomorrow assumes more than usual importance, for a decision is to be made on the package presented by Albert Agar, the president, for a major change to the structure of the game in England.

The time for debate, Agar said yesterday, had passed the special meeting held at the end of September. He expressed the hope that all constituent body representatives would return with a firm mandate to vote on the package, which includes proposals for a permanent divisional championship, for a further restructuring of the county championship and for the definite prospect of club leagues.

Given an affirmative vote, the divisional championship would come into being next season. One can only hope that, after a decade of spade-work by Sir George Mallaby and his committee, by Dick Jeeps in his year of presidency, and by the RFU's own Burgess committee, the various members of tomorrow's meeting will not turn round and say: "We are happy as we are."

With the exception of 1980 and the quintuple tie of 1973, it is 21 years since England won

the home international championship; that is a record matched only by Scotland, who have far fewer players to select from, bettered by Ireland (who are also limited by numbers) and left trailing in the dust of Wales and France.

The RFU have no need of models; they have their own based on the work of the last 10 years. But if they seek a model of economy, then Ireland's proposals for a national club competition, at present being studied by the clubs, would be as good as any. The Irish RFU are invoking support for a league embracing 47 clubs divided into five divisions, the top three of nine clubs each, the bottom two of 10 clubs each. Given a satisfactory response by next March - and Irish officials are optimistic - the IRFU hope to implement the league during the 1986-7 season.

England's lamentable record over the last two decades is not attributable solely to the lack of a competitive structure, but possibly the most frustrating aspect of the lack of success is that the RFU have realized the need for change, mobilized the forces to point the way, and then have found their members baulking at the last fence. After Mallaby and Burgess, will Agar be third time lucky?

N Zealand boys on tour

The first major overseas tour by a New Zealand secondary schools team will begin on Saturday when they play East Wales Schools at Pandy Park, Cross Keys (David Hands writes). The party of 27 players and three officials have a week to acclimatize before beginning their 14-match programme, which includes internationals against the four home countries and the Netherlands.

It has been two months since the boys, each of whom had to contribute some £300 to the cost of the tour after the withdrawal of a government grant, last played, and their last international was a win over Australia by 18-10 in August. Their first international in Britain is against Scottish Schools at Murrayfield on December 15.

They meet Welsh Schools in Cardiff a week later, Irish Schools in London on January 5, and the climax of the tour is Test number one on January 23 against England. In the only previous meeting between the two countries, at Pukekohe in 1970, England won 23-4.

ITINERARY: Dec 8: East Wales (Cross Keys), Dec 12: Scottish Schools (Murrayfield), Dec 15: Scottish Schools (Murrayfield), Dec 18: Welsh Schools (Pandy Park), Dec 22: Wales (Cross Keys), Dec 27: South and South-west (Bath), Dec 30: South and South-west (Bath), Jan 2: Ireland (Cork), Jan 5: Ireland (Dublin), Jan 8: Ireland (Dublin), Jan 12: North (Donny), Jan 15: London (London), Jan 18: North (Donny), Jan 22: England (Pukekohe), Jan 25: England (Pukekohe).

Price returns

London Welsh, playing West Hartlepool on Saturday in the first fixture between the clubs for more than 80 years, make three changes to the team which beat Aberavon 31-10. Price, who once played for West Hartlepool, returns to stand-off, so Elsworth moves to full back in place of Thomas and Bradley comes back at prop in place of Davies.

The England flanker, David Cooke, the Hartlepool captain, goes into hospital this week to have a piece of "floating bone" removed from a knee, but this will not sideline him for long. Cooke expects to be back in action shortly.



Jim Aitken: gritting his teeth as he faces the future

Aitken philosophical about his omission

By Ian McLauchlan

Just under nine months ago Scotland, against all the odds, defeated France at Murrayfield to complete their most successful season since 1925. They had won the Calcutta Cup, triple crown and grand slam in quick succession. Much of the credit for these victories was given to the captain Jim Aitken, who is affectionately known as "Big Daddy" by the players.

The same players were full of praise and admiration for him. It was Aitken who had held them together in terms of stress - and there had been plenty of those during the season. It was Aitken and his iron discipline that had cut down on the number of penalties conceded and it was his cajoling that had kept the team driving forward to victory.

His public face exuded calmness and a quiet confidence - unlike the usual Scottish cockiness, which is a frailty in our character. After every game he spoke with humility and looked forward to the next challenge.

On Saturday, however, as Scotland play Australia, Aitken will take his place in the stand as a mere spectator. He has been omitted from the squad which will be trying to prevent an Australian grand slam - their first ever, should they prove successful.

Scotland have already been denied the services of Rutherford, Paxton, Johnston, Leslie and Campbell through injury. This in itself should be enough to call on Aitken's strong leadership and experience to pull this team together as they face a demanding task.

Aitken's club, Gala, have had by their own high standards a poor season, losing four of the eight league games played this season. In such a situation it is difficult, if not impossible, for a prop to influence the proceedings. So he has been overlooked, although his game is based on strong scrummaging, has not changed.

Apart from his personal performance, many feel that he is worthy of at least one more chance. Many also feel that, with so many new players in the side, Aitken's captaincy would give Scotland a real chance of pulling off victory in this match.

It is not to be, however, and Scotland again have prematurely discarded one of their heroes. Aitken himself is philosophical, saying that the season has a long way to go. Rather typically, he grins his teeth, seeing this as a temporary setback - rather than the end of his international career.

Ireland prepare for final trial

By George Ace

On Sunday the Irish selectors will assemble in Limerick to determine the composition of the final Irish trial teams that will meet at Lansdowne Road, Dublin, on December 22, after which the side to meet England at the same venue on January 19 will be named.

The previous day the selectors will have split minds to take in the final matches in the inter-provincial championship. In Galway, Connaught meet Leinster while at Limerick's historic Thomond Park, Munster will be attempting to dent Ulster's unbeaten run this season.

The final trial is something of a misnomer in that it is the only official trial of the season. And rarely is it the yardstick that the selectors use in their final analysis, being more apt to rely on the form displayed during the inter-provincial championship.

On very few occasions has an impressive performance in the final trial won a player a place on an Irish side if he had not had something already in his locker. Equally, rarely has a poor performance cost a recognized player his place.

Four teams will be selected at the weekend: the Probables, the fancied ones to make the team to play England; the Possibles; and 30 substitutes, 15 for each of the two teams. It is a task not made any easier by the fact that several permanent fixtures among the Probables got the past few seasons out, for a variety of reasons not available, including Ollie Campbell, John O'Driscoll, Fergus Slattery and Moss Keane.

Keane, of course, has announced his retirement from representative rugby, and the grapevine is persistent that there will be no place in the trial for W. P. Duggan (Black Rock College) at No 8.

Unhappy players who look certain to feature large in the selectors' discussions are Nigel Carr, rated by most observers as certain of his place against England in January, Brian McCall, the London Irish and Ulster lock; Baggot's twosome who both scored tries in last weekend's B international, David Morrow and Terry McManis; Rab Brady, the Ulster scrum half; Declan Aherne, a forceful left-wing; Paul Collins, the Munster No 8; and John Barry, the B full back, must have a great chance of being No 1 challenger to Hugo MacNeill, after an excellent weekend performance in Galway.

The 15 who played against Australia, plus Crossan, a late withdrawal from the left wing, will make up the bulk of the Probables' team, with possibly Carr and Ward forcing their way onto the senior side to the exclusion of Sexton and Dean.

Magri's challenger may put world title ambitions first

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Charlie Magri, whose European flyweight title defence against Antoine Montero, of France, was announced on Monday, may now not meet the Frenchman after all. Reports from France say that Montero, who hoped to challenge the winner of the bout between Freddie Castillo of Mexico and Sot Chulalada of Thailand, has now decided to take on Santos Lacaar, an Argentine, for the World Boxing Association (WBA) title in March.

After defeating the World Boxing Council (WBC) No 3 Jorge Cano, of Mexico in Grenoble last Friday, Montero said: "I am not interested in fighting for the European title any more. I only want to gear myself up these days for bigger things." In making that remark Montero may have forgotten that Lacaar, though one of the first men to floor Magri, was handsomely beaten on points by the Steppney flyweight.

So it would not be surprising if Frank Warren, the London promoter who won the right to stage the European title bout in London with a large purse offer of £40,000, may now wait until after Montero's world title bout to stage the European title fight. Of course, if Montero were to win the world title, a match between him and Magri would become imperative.



Montero: aiming higher

Warren's office yesterday said that they had not had any rejection of Warren's offer as yet from Montero's manager, Jose Jover and until such time as something definite came from Jover they were going ahead with their plans for the European title bout in Alexander Pavilion, North London. Warren, who remembers Montero beating his own flyweight, Keith Wallace, in London, knows that the Frenchman's bout against a popular Londoner like Magri would be a sell-out.

WBA deliver body blow to Coetzee's appeal

Johannesburg (AP) - Gerrie Coetzee, the dethroned world Boxing Association heavyweight champion, yesterday suffered a setback to his hopes of successfully appealing against his eighth-round knockout by the American, Greg Page.

The WBA championships committee informed Coetzee that the Boxing Board of Control that the bout "was conducted according to the WBA rules and regulations," and the WBA "recognizes Greg Page as a legitimate WB Heavyweight champion."

Siam Chritodoulou, of South Africa, the chairman of the WBA championships committee, teleaxed the WBA position to the South African Board.

Page of Louisville, Kentucky, floored Coetzee for the full count in an eighth round that ran 48 seconds past the official three minutes. No official explanation has been offered, but the clock was either broken or the timekeeper not alert, according to witnesses and video reports.

Hal Tucker, Coetzee's manager, said after the bout that he also wanted to appeal because Page knocked Coetzee down in an exchange of punches after the bell ending the sixth round.

● ATLANTIC CITY: Milton McCrory, the World Boxing Council welterweight champion, produced a three-punch flurry to stop Lloyd Taylor in the fourth round of a scheduled 10-round bout on Tuesday night (AP reports).

McCrory trapped Taylor on the ropes 56 seconds into the fourth round and landed a right to the head, followed by a left hook and another right to the head. Taylor dropped, face first, on the canvas.

The Referee, Larry Mazzard, stopped counting at "four" after Taylor made no effort to rise. In an earlier bout, Steve McCrory, the Olympic flyweight gold medal winner, kept his record unblemished with a six-round unanimous decision over Sonny Long. McCrory won a battle of inside body punching.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
FA YOUTH CUP: Second rounds: Queen's Park vs. Rangers (7.45), Celtic vs. Aberdeen (8.00).
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers vs. Brighton and Hove Albion (2.30).
OTHER MATCHES: Cambridge University vs. Cambridge United (2.0).

OTHER SPORT
BASKETBALL: Kellogg's Cup, semi-final, First Leg: Manchester City vs. Kingston (7.45).
DARTS: World professional tournament, cushioning rounds (Jokers, Snake-on-Trent).
SNOWBOLE: Grand doubles (Derbygate Centre, Northampton).

Why you'll find it a pleasure to fly through New York on business.

We can think of plenty of reasons why you might like to route your trip to the U.S. through New York (theatre, museums, sightseeing, shopping, wining and dining...).

But you'll be pleased to learn that there are just as many practical reasons, as well. And they all start at the New York/New Jersey Airports—your gateway to business (and pleasure) in the U.S.

More direct service from Europe

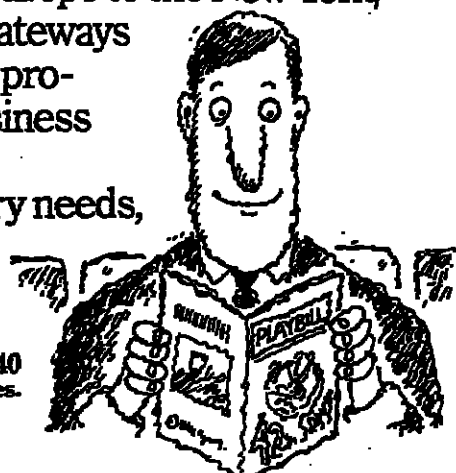
To begin with, there are more flights from Europe to the New York/New Jersey Airports than to all other U.S. gateways combined. More than 500 nonstops a week provide all the convenience and flexibility a business traveler needs.

And to satisfy your cultural and culinary needs, New York has more entertainment—over 40 Broadway theatres—and more restaurants—a mere 25,000—than any place else on earth.

More flights to major U.S. cities

No matter where in the U.S. your business takes you, flights from the New York/New Jersey Airports can take you there more often.

Kennedy, Newark and LaGuardia Airports offer you more flights to more major cities than any other U.S. gateway (more than 10,000 flights a week to 160 cities).



More than 40 Broadway theatres.



And don't forget, from the New York/New Jersey Airports, you're just a taxi-ride away from some of the world's most famous museums, shops and sights (not to mention Atlantic City's casinos, just a bus-ride away from Manhattan).

More than 8,000 shops and boutiques.

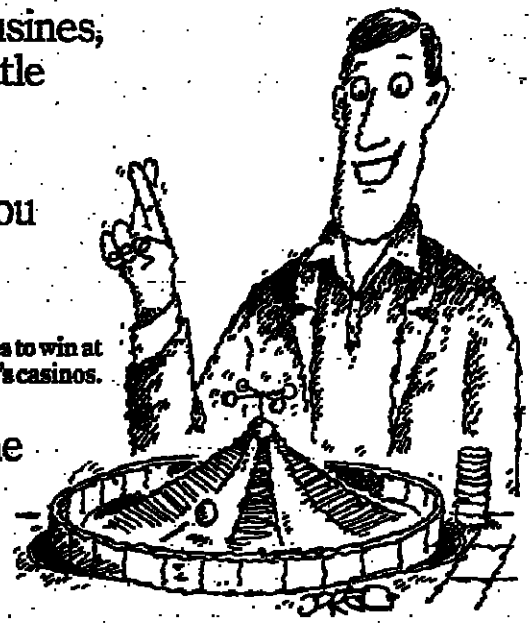
More services for business travelers

At our airports, we offer every service we can to help you take the easy way out.

From frequent, free connecting buses that whisk you from terminal to terminal. To limousines, helicopters, coaches and taxis that shuttle you from airport to city—or to your connecting airport. And our new Red/Green system at Kennedy can speed you through customs.

So next time you have business in the U.S., give yourself more than just a good flight—treat yourself to a good time in New York. After all, it makes good business sense.

Just ask your travel agent.



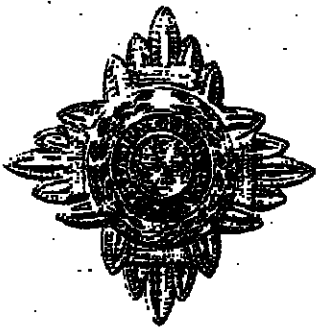
More chances to win at Atlantic City's casinos.

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY AIRPORTS

Kennedy Newark LaGuardia

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

General Appointments



A Commission in the Women's Royal Army Corps.

The WRAC currently have vacancies on their next Officer training course starting in September 1985 at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. The selection procedures are starting now.

The Corps is looking for young women who want a more unusual and challenging career, which could take them anywhere in the UK, or abroad, serving alongside their male colleagues.

Successful applicants will initially be offered a 3 year Short Service Commission, with the possibility of extending to a Regular Commission at a later date.

If you are between 17-29 years old and have, ideally, 2 A-levels, or a degree, please write for further details to Lieutenant Colonel Joan Johnstone MBE, WRAC, Corps Recruiting and Liaison Officer, Department 17, The Keep, Stoughton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6PN. (N.B. Tell her your date of birth and the qualifications you have or expect.)

PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER-BUILDING EMPLOYERS CONFEDERATION

The Building Employers Confederation the principal building industry trade body, is looking for a high-quality Press and Public Relations Executive to fulfill a wide-ranging role in the publicising and promotion of the views and policies of this leading representative organisation.

Candidates will need to have journalistic and Public Relations experience within a major industry. Some experience of the construction industry would be a distinct advantage. The Press and Public Relations Officer would be responsible to the Director of Information Services on behalf of the Confederation and two of its major sectors, the Federation of Specialist Building Contractors and the British Woodworking Federation for - the production and dissemination of Press Notices and feature articles, briefing material and other documentary material - the initiation of Press Conferences, Press briefings, interviews, etc; - the development in full, consultation with regional and local association staff, of Confederation contacts with, and the supply of Press information to regional and local newspapers and other publications and to the regional broadcasting media.

This post carries an attractive salary and benefits package, including pension, free medical insurance, etc.

Applications, with detailed CV to: Personnel Officer, BEC, 82 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8AD within fourteen days.

YOUNG PERSON Required as Personal Assistant

Single, presentable and interested in travelling extensively overseas - to include flying and yacht cruising.

Prepared to live in hotels, employers' homes, boat and help with travelling logistics and domestic arrangements.

Attractive salary for right person. Please send photograph, passport details and brief outline of background to:

Box 2040 Y The Times

HOT AIR BALLOON TOURING COMPANY

Seeks strong athletic young crew - experienced drivers - clean licence, English medium tongue standard but also fluent in Italian to work in Tuscany April and May OR French to work in Burgundy May thru October OR German to work in Salzburg August, September & October.

Send cv with telephone, photo, height and weight to -

THE BOMBARD SOCIETY
6727 CURRAN,
McLEAN, VA 22101
USA

Water Industry Training Association Management Development Consultant

Salary: £16,125 - £17,973

Applications are invited for a fourth person to join the small management development consultancy team based at Tadley Court, in Hampshire, the water industry's management training centre. The team has recently been set up to provide a consultancy service to the industry.

The successful candidate will establish strong links with senior management in member organisations, and play a major role in providing management development in the water industry. He/she will assist in the analysis of needs, and carry out consultancy work concerned with organisation development and group and individual development for senior managers. He/she will also be part of the tutorial team which runs residential programmes for senior managers at Tadley Court.

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will be a graduate with a behavioural science background, at least five years' experience in management development and/or management teaching, and significant experience of management development consultancy, particularly at a senior level. Some management experience and a further relevant qualification would be additionally advantageous. Preferred age range 30-45.

Letters of application, with CV, should be sent to: M C Message, Water Industry Training Association, Tadley Court, Tadley Common Road, Tadley, Wiltshire, BA26 6TB, by 31 December, 1984.

PROPERTY SUPERVISOR

A property supervisor is required with a minimum of five years' experience in property administration and accounts.

Location: Marbella, Spain.

Applicant must have residence permit for Spain and be fluent in spoken / written English and Spanish.

Salary: Negotiable according to experience and qualification.

Post handwritten C.V.s in English with telephone number in complete confidence to:

Mr O. Halim, 3rd Floor
33/34 Bury Street, London EC3A 3AD.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE

Weatherbys, secretaries to the Jockey Club, require a person of a professional/chartered secretary background aged 30+.

This is a senior post, London based, which would suit a person able to work with the minimum supervision.

In addition to the more usual secretarial responsibilities, the successful applicant will be involved in the preparation and discussion of technical papers on matters such as taxation and the development of legislation affecting the organisation.

Although not essential, a legal background and experience making technical submissions at a high level would be advantageous.

Write enclosing detailed curriculum vitae to:

C. E. Hunt, Hodgson Harris,
Halford house, Coval Lane,
Chelmsford, Essex. CM1 1TZ.

Graduate Trainee Junior Consultant/Marketing Assistant

to £7,500

Personnel Resources is a successful recruitment consultancy servicing finance and accountancy appointments in Commerce, Industry and Public Practice. We are enjoying major growth and are keen to strengthen our marketing and consultancy team within one of our specialist divisions. You should be aged 22-34, have a good degree and up to 18 months experience in accountancy, marketing or personnel management. Base salary £6,500 + Profit Share with development to a consultancy role within 6-12 months. If you respond to challenge and can bring personal commitment and motivation, we will be pleased to hear from you. To apply, please call TRACEY HODSON or write enclosing your C.V.

Personnel Resources

75 GRAYS INN ROAD, WC1X 8US 01-242 6321

DISTRICT GENERAL MANAGER

Applications are invited for this new appointment of District General Manager, who will be personally responsible to the Health Authority for its general management function with the objective of maximising health care within available resources.

The Gwynedd Health Authority provides a comprehensive range of health care for a resident population of 234,000 and employs over 5,000 staff in a wide range of disciplines. The annual budget is £42m.

The appointment will be for an initial fixed term of 3 years, renewable subsequently by mutual agreement.

Applicants (male/female) should have a successful record of management in a large organisation (public or private) and be capable of providing effective leadership in a multi-professional situation. Gwynedd is a predominantly bilingual district and the successful candidate should be Welsh speaking or be prepared to become acquainted with the Welsh language. Facilities to learn Welsh are available.

Application forms and information, including job description, from Mrs N. L. Edwards, Chairman, Chairman's Office, Gwynedd Health Authority, Coad Mawr, Bangor, Gwynedd. Tel No: 351551. Closing date: 5 January, 1985.

GWYNEDD HEALTH AUTHORITY, NORTH WALES

Public Appointments

TOMORROW'S WORLD ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL - INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

Co-ordinating Director for Social Science Research Network

Don't let the conventional language fool you. The ESRC is breaking new ground.

We seek a Director for a vital network to link research centres. The Director is to be appointed as soon as possible for three years in the first instance, at a salary of around £25,000 a year.

The job is to take stock of current research on the economic, social and managerial implications of the new information and communications technologies and to draw up a plan for development in the field through research in a network of centres. The Director will be located at the Headquarters of the ESRC in Central London and provided with supporting staff.

It is intended that the research programme will reach an annual level of spending of £1m a year in 1987/8. At the end of the five year programme Council will decide whether to establish a more permanent national centre for the field. A part-time appointment might be considered if a suitable full-time Director cannot be found.

Further particulars are available from Dr Cyril Smith, ESRC, 1 Temple Avenue, London EC4A 3DF, closing date: 11 January 1985.

ESRC

HOUSE OF COMMONS (Department of the Clerk of the House)

SELECT COMMITTEE SPECIALIST ASSISTANTS

Specialist Assistants are required for (a) Select Committee on Environment and (b) Select Committee on Education, Science and Arts. The duties will include giving assistance to the Clerk of the Committee and undertaking research into specific questions. Applications are invited from candidates with a good degree or an equivalent professional qualification in a relevant subject together with several years' relevant practical experience which in the case of post (b) should include experience of educational administration. An interest in public administration would be an advantage.

The preferred age range is 28-35 years and for a successful candidate within this range the salary will be between £11,782 and £14,444 pa according to age, qualifications and experience. Applications from particularly well qualified candidates aged from 25-27 will also be considered. The salary for this age group will be between £9,793 to £12,029 pa. There is a non-contributory pension scheme with inter-change arrangements with other Public Service pension schemes. The appointments will commence as soon as possible after 1 January 1985 (post (a)) and 1 March 1985 (post (b)) and will be for a period of between two and four years.

Strict political impartiality is required of all House of Commons staff and the persons appointed will be expected not to engage in political activities for the duration of the appointment.

For further details and application form write to the Establishments Office, HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON SW1A 0AA, or telephone 01 219 3544 (answering service) quoting reference number: 2A/44, (the Environment Committee) 2A/45, (the Education, Science and Arts Committee)

Closing date for return of application forms: 31 December 1984. The House of Commons Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Translators- Opportunities in Government Service

Department of Trade and Industry - Translator Grade III (full-time)
Foreign and Commonwealth Office - Translator Grade II (part-time)

...to join professional teams responsible for the rapid and accurate translation into English, mainly from European languages, of a wide range of texts, including commercial, economic, legal, political, scientific, and technical.

Candidates must have English as their mother tongue or language of education and must be British or Commonwealth citizens. For the Grade III post they must have qualifications in French and German, one of these being to at least second class honours degree standard or its equivalent and the other to a standard approaching this. For the Grade II post they must be competent in both French and Italian to at least second class honours degree standard or its equivalent and have sound knowledge of Spanish and normally at least two years' full-time experience (or its part-time equivalent) of professional translation.

work. Knowledge of additional relevant languages and/or a relevant postgraduate qualification would be advantageous for both posts.

Final-year students in undergraduate courses are not eligible to apply, but students in relevant postgraduate courses may apply. Further vacancies for full-time Translators Grade III, to be filled from the present recruitment scheme, may arise in other departments.

SALARY: Grade III £7315-£9790. Grade II approximately one-half of the full-time scale - £7990-£12,025.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 11 January 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alcon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref G/6859.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

CAREER OPPORTUNITY IN RECRUITMENT

Further expansion demands that we appoint another dynamic and enthusiastic achiever. You will be offering an experienced recruiter or a graduate entering a sales and marketing type of environment. Energy and application will yield a high basic salary, bonus scheme, private health care and, after a qualifying period, a car of your choice.

MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL
67/68 New Bond Street,
London, W1Y 9DF.
01-408 1884

AGENTS

Selling to maintenance departments, industrial, commercial and farm estates to introduce a new and exciting range of resin based surface coatings. Guaranteed territories, good commission.

BOSTON CHEMICAL CO
0937 843413

Stockbroking Join a Major Player

The Managed Funds Department of this successful city stockbroker is one of the firm's fastest growing areas. They now wish to appoint an assistant to work closely with the manager and partner.

Your main tasks will be researching and collating information, preparing statistics, reviewing client portfolios and some filing. Future prospects for further development are excellent, within a few months you will probably be advising clients on the telephone about their investments.

In your early 20's you are numerate, articulate and possess a good telephone manner. You will either be educated to 'A' level and have about 2 years experience in a private client department or related financial area, or alternatively are a graduate seeking a career in stockbroking. Depending on your experience salary inclusive of bonus will be c.£10,000. Ring or preferably write to Pat Werton at Cripps, Sears and Associates Limited, Personnel Management Consultants, 88 89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Telephone: 01-404 5701.

Cripps, Sears

MARKETING EXECUTIVE - U.K. BANKING

A long established merchant bank in the City of London, now part of a widely represented international banking group, wish to strengthen our U.K. corporate marketing team by recruiting an experienced marketing executive to operate from London.

The successful candidate will work with a small team and will be expected to identify and develop corporate contacts - which will necessitate negotiating up to board level, with a view to maximising all group banking services. A significant contribution to overall marketing strategy and the ability to bring innovative ideas to services and business development will be expected.

The appointee will be about 30 years of age, an Associate of the Institute of Bankers (or similar qualification) and be able to demonstrate at least three years of successful corporate marketing and business development in a banking environment. The ability to undertake financial analysis and identify future potential will be essential. The remuneration package will include a basic salary of around £20,000 p.a. together with the normal benefits associated with a banking appointment of this importance.

Applications, which must include a full C.V., should be addressed under "Private and Confidential" cover to:

MR P Roberts
Director
U.K. Banking
B.A.I.L. plc
22 Bevis Marks
London EC3A 7DY

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT IN THE FINANCIAL MARKETS

c £20,000 + car

Experienced or trainee for a well established consultancy specialising in the fast growing financial markets.

Ideally aged 25+ articulate and with a bright personality. City or agency background could be an advantage, plus full training will be given.

This is an ideal career for someone who is self-motivated and who would enjoy the success that comes from their own initiative and enthusiasm.

Please call Sally Poppleton or John Grob on 01-481 3451.

CHARTERHOUSE APPOINTMENTS
World Trade Centre
London E1

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE ARTS requires a DIRECTOR

£17,500 pa

to head a national organisation newly established to mobilise public opinion in support of the Arts and to win political recognition of their importance in Britain. The Director will be based in London and will be responsible for:

- creating a nationwide network of activity in support of the organisation's aims;
- building up and servicing a membership;
- contacting, communicating with and influencing politicians and opinion-formers at all levels;
- establishing a research programme to provide information resources.

Political knowledge and acumen will be at least as important as experience in the Arts. Applications in writing (with CV) by 31st December, 1984, to The Secretary, InterExec Executive Committee, Frances House, Francis Street, London, SW1P 1DE. Further information will be supplied on request.

A direct line to the executive shortlist

InterExec is the organisation specialising in the confidential promotion of Senior Executives.

InterExec clients do not need to find vacancies or apply for appointments. InterExec qualified specialists select and assess to over 100 unadvertised vacancies per week, enable new appointments at senior levels to be achieved rapidly, effectively and confidentially.

For a mutually confidential meeting telephone:

London 01-930 5041/8 19 Charing Cross Rd, WC2
Birmingham 021-622 5648 The Rutland, New St.
Bristol 0272 277315 30 Baldwin St.
Edinburgh 01-226 5650 47a George St.
Glasgow 041-332 5672 180 Hope St.
Leeds 0532 454241 12 St. Paul's St.
Manchester 061-236 8409 Fawcett Hse, Faulkner St.

The one who stands out

SALES AND MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT?

You have no doubt seen vacancies for financial management consultants and have perhaps wondered what exactly this entails.

In a lot of cases it means selling Life Assurance, Pensions, and Investment Plans. However, at Allied Hambro Financial Management it means a lot more.

As one of the Country's largest Financial Institutions, we are in a unique position to offer our clients a complete integrated range of financial services including Portfolio Management, and Banking Services. Consequently we require people of integrity to train for a career in this wider sphere of financial management consultancy.

As we spend over £2 million pa on our Training Programmes, we are not so much concerned with your background, as with a successful track record, and above average ability to communicate, and a determination to succeed.

We consider well trained totally professional people crucial to the future of our business.

DIAL 100 today and ask for "FREEPHONE ACHIEVEMENT" and speak personally to one of our Branch Management Team in major towns and cities throughout the U.K. INCLUDING NORTHERN IRELAND.

General Appointments

Logistics Director
c.£44,000 a year tax-free

The National Guard King Khalid Hospital in Jeddah is one of Saudi Arabia's showcase hospitals. Caring for the elite National Guard and their families, it is managed by the British-based International Hospitals Group (IHG) in liaison with the British Government and in association with IAL.

Now that the Hospital has been operational for two years, consideration of its future management needs has led to the creation of the role of Logistics Director.

Working for the Hospital and Medical Director you will be responsible for the efficient management of the Supplies, Technical Services, Transport and Vehicle Maintenance departments which form the Logistics division.

As well as a minimum of 15 years experience in two or more of the logistics areas we've specified, you should have spent at least five years at senior management level in a large industrial or commercial complex, and ideally some of your experience will have been gained in a hospital or medical services environment. You should also have a degree in an engineering subject, or in management.

What you would earn with IAL

The figure quoted is based on a salary of SR175,000 (£40,697) at a conversion rate of SR4.3=£1, plus a bonus of one month's salary for every 12 months' satisfactory service which is paid as a tax free lump sum at the end of your time with IAL in Saudi Arabia.

The very real challenge of the role and the tax-free salary we've quoted are made even more attractive by an extensive and valuable benefits package which includes free accompanied status accommodation, education allowance, generous leave entitlement with free return flights to the UK, and free medical care. The hospital complex has ample sports and recreational facilities.

Preference will be given to suitably qualified Saudi Arabian nationals and Arabic speaking personnel.

If you're interested in using your experience in a completely new environment, write with full career and personal details to the Senior Recruitment Officer, quoting ref. M120.



**Medical Services
Manpower Services**

Aeradio House, Hayes Road, Southall,
Middlesex, UB8 5NJ

A MEMBER OF THE STANDARD TELEPHONES AND CABLES PLC GROUP

ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
(previously Social Science
Research Council)SECRETARY TO
THE COUNCIL

The Council is seeking a successor to the current Secretary of the Council who retires at the end of July 1985. The Secretary is the Council's senior permanent officer and deputises for the Chairman as needed. His or her main duties are concerned with the management of Council's resources - staff, cash and information. (The Council spends over £23 million each year on research in universities and other research institutes, on the training of post-graduate students, and on over 20 research centres located in universities or independent institutes throughout the UK). The post involves an important contribution to policy making and maintaining good working relations with government departments and other public bodies.

The successful applicant should have a proven record in the management of an organisation in higher education, research, or a relevant public or private sector body.

The Council invites applications for the post. Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Establishment Officer, ESRC, 1 Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0BD (telephone: 01-353 5252). The salary will be in the range £21,313 to £25,817; and other conditions will be analogous with the Civil Service. Applications must be returned to ESRC not later than Wednesday, 16th January, 1985.

The ESRC is an equal opportunities employer.

ESRC ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL RESEARCH
COUNCIL

Appeal
Director

for the British Wildlife Appeal of the Royal Society for Nature Conservation. The Society is the largest voluntary organisation concerned with all aspects of nature conservation in the UK and acts as the national association for 46 local trusts.

The role is to plan and direct the National Appeal which is to be launched during 1985. Candidates must be able to demonstrate a record of success in large-scale fundraising.

Initial contract for not less than two years with an annual remuneration up to £20,000. London base.

Please send personal details in confidence to: Geoffrey Elms, Charity Appointments, 146 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HN

*Charity
Appointments*

About Thomas Cook Financial Services

Thomas Cook Financial Services, a subsidiary of the Midland Bank, has achieved an impressive record of growth and profitability over the years, particularly in the travellers cheque field. We are the second largest issuer of travellers cheques in the world, with 10 different currencies sold worldwide through 40 offices covering 160 countries. Maintaining that success in a highly competitive international market depends on a

great extent on the introduction of new products, services and systems.

The past 5 years have seen our Financial Services team create major systems developments mainly on mini-computers and micros, including an international network in 7 countries to handle data transmission around the globe.

Head of International
Systems Development

Salary up to £20,000, plus car, plus benefits

Briefly your objectives in this post which is designated International Systems and Automation Manager will be:

■ To generate ideas on the use of automation to provide new services and facilities to help gain/retain sales agents. This will involve international travel.

■ To develop and manage the worldwide automation strategic plan in the areas of internal systems development and external systems support.

■ To co-ordinate Company requirements for systems and to act as main advisor on system implications of all new worldwide developments within the travellers cheque and other business areas.

You will be a graduate with at least 10 years' experience of DP including systems and programming, covering mainframe, minis and

micros and be well versed in the technical capabilities of hardware and software. This senior position demands a radical thinker and persuasive presenter of ideas, capable of bringing concepts to fruition. While experience of banking or financial services systems is an advantage it is not essential. In return for your rare skills, we are offering a salary of up to £20,000 plus car and a range of benefits which include profit share, BUPA, mortgage subsidy and holidays/travel concessions.

Please write with full CV, detailing your achievements, to Virginia Wood, Personnel Manager, Thomas Cook Financial Services, PO Box 36, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE8 6SS.

**Thomas
Cook**

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS AT KEW IS THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS CENTRE OF HORTICULTURE.

THIS HIGHLY-RESPECTED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION IS MANAGED BY A BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND PROVIDES A NATIONAL REFERENCE COLLECTION OF LIVING PLANTS, BOTH FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND FOR THE PUBLIC. IN ADDITION TO THE 300 ACRES AT KEW, IT ALSO OPERATES A 500 ACRE GARDEN AT WAKEHURST PLACE, NEAR HARWARD'S HEATH, SUSSEX.

COULD YOU BECOME THE NEXT FINANCIAL CONTROLLER OF THIS UNIQUE ORGANISATION?

REPORTING TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, YOU'LL TACKLE A WIDE VARIETY OF DUTIES. THESE INCLUDE DEVELOPING A COMPUTERISED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, ESTIMATING EXPENDITURE, PREPARING ACCOUNTS FOR PRESENTATION TO PARLIAMENT, FINANCIAL CONTROL, AND THE REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PROCEDURES.

TO DO THIS YOU MUST HAVE A VARIETY OF SKILLS GAINED IN AN ADP ENVIRONMENT, EXPERIENCE IN OPERATING BUDGETARY CONTROL AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES USED

IN THE COMMERCIAL WORLD, OR BY A NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODY WOULD BE AN ADVANTAGE.

CANDIDATES MUST BE CHARTERED, CERTIFIED, COST AND MANAGEMENT OR PUBLIC FINANCE ACCOUNTANTS OR BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADMISSION. SELF-MOTIVATION, ORGANISING ABILITY, AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS ARE ALSO VITAL. THERE ARE PROSPECTS FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE WIDER SCOPE OF THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING SERVICE.

SALARY £13,645-£18,215. STARTING SALARY ACCORDING TO QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND AN APPLICATION FORM (TO BE RETURNED BY 2 JANUARY 1985) WRITE TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, ALLENCLIFF LINK, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS, RG21 1JB, OR TELEPHONE BASINGSTOKE (0256) 468551 (ANSWERING SERVICE OPERATES OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS). PLEASE QUOTE REF. Q/1688.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

PROMOTING
BRITAIN
OVERSEASEditor in Chief of
Publicity Group

This is an opportunity to lead a multi-disciplinary team responsible for supporting Britain's diplomatic and commercial objectives overseas. The team produces illustrated magazines, photographic displays, posters and other publications. The work covers design and production as well as editorial services. The Editor in Chief will direct the team and exercise full financial authority.

Candidates must have relevant editorial experience, sound policy judgement and a good working knowledge of all aspects of publishing, including design and production. Experience of magazine publishing advantageous. Candidates should have particular

knowledge of overseas information requirements and the ability to liaise with, and advise customer departments on the full range of the team's work.

Salary: As Principal Information Officer, £14,185-£18,765. Starting salary within the range according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 14 January 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencliff Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/6633.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

Time Manager International
A Most Rewarding Challenge

Time Manager International is a dynamic company. In nine years we have become the leader in a fast growing field. Today we work in over twenty countries.

We need to increase our team of consultants presenting our personal development programmes for our clients.

It is not easy to be part of our team. You have to be able to keep an audience listening and learning for two full days, and to keep to a very intensive schedule. The following attributes are essential:

- Good education, to degree level
- Ability to relate to and communicate with people at all levels
- Experience of speaking in public, with use of audio-visual equipment
- Ability to put across a serious message in a structured but entertaining way
- Sensitivity to client company cultures
- Ability to work within the strict confines of a well defined course with a unique presentation style
- Significant ability to work away from central control
- Experience in a mainstream business discipline.

In addition, candidates should be aged between 28 and 45 years, and will be prepared to be away from home much of the time. Users of the Time Manager system would be at a clear advantage.

The tangible rewards are very good, with potential earnings in excess of £20,000 from a high base.

Preliminary meetings will be held at the Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London, on Thursday 20 December between 10.30 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. Curricula vitae may be sent in advance to Chris Lane, Chief Executive,

Time Manager International,
50 High Street, Henley-in-Arden, Solihull, West Midlands B95 5AN.
Telephone (05642) 4100 Ext. 26

GROUP BUYER
(RAW MATERIALS)

West Middx circa £18,000

Quaker Oats Limited is the successful subsidiary of the Quaker Oats Company of Chicago, with a record of real growth in the UK. The Company, a leading manufacturer of breakfast cereals, cereal snacks and pet foods, are seeking an experienced Buyer to join as Group Buyer (Raw Materials), reporting to the Purchasing Manager.

This broad based position includes responsibility for the purchase of the Company's grains, and feeds and petfoods raw materials through a small buying team.

The job covers a wide range of activities including all parts of the supply routes. For example, for grains, the promotion of local productions by both trade and research contacts, and for petfoods the development of new cost effective raw materials to satisfy an aggressive marketing programme.

The successful candidate will be experienced in the buying of grains and/or other relevant commodities. He/she will need to display an analytical and innovative approach to markets and to the solution of Company needs. Also to demonstrate well developed communication skills and the ability to manage people.

This is a challenging and rewarding career opportunity supported by a competitive package. Relocation assistance is available as appropriate.

Please contact or write to:

Lorraine Wiseman
Recruitment and Training Manager
Quaker Oats Limited
Bridge Road
Southall, Middlesex
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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career choice Choosing the right man

It may be an uncharitable thought but when the government was presented with setting up an "equal pay for work of equal value" provision by the EEC it did so reluctantly. The cumbersome and lengthy procedures that an applicant has to go through have the effect of putting off all but the hardest of women and one might suspect that they were designed with this in mind. If this is the case then it may prove to be as mistaken as the designs for early mangelwurzel scrubbers.

Few people, except those close to the case, expected Miss Hayward, who works at the Cammell Laird shipyard, to win her case. How could a canteen worker be compared with the strong craftsmen in what is, by any definition, a "male" industry? It was a non-runner and the lack of belief was evidenced by the lack of success attached to seminars and lectures on the subject, especially in the north of the country.

The blinkered

It would have been easier to get personnel managers to attend a seminar on Emscan Art and persuade them that it had more relevance to their job. It is highly probable that this more blinkered attitude will be changing - and only just in time.

This victory, if it stands, opens on to a vista of tribunal cases the like of which has not been seen before and a

Are men workers more equal than women?
Barrie Sherman looks at the problems

consequent bundle of upset agreements, customs and practices. Given the nature of the procedure there is a chance however that the decision will be overturned on appeal. The equal value is assessed by an independent expert and the methodology by which this is determined is very much the stuff of experiment. This does not invalidate the decision one whit, but it does leave the door open more widely to challenges than a more traditional system would.

It would be a mistake to underestimate the effects or the potential of these changes. Value is a tricky concept and one that has played but a small part in the remuneration systems of modern Britain, especially where women have been concerned. There has often been a tacit assumption that because a woman does a job it has a low value.

Regrettably unions have gone along with this myth and as women attend union meetings less frequently and in smaller numbers than men it has been assumed that women were satisfied -

at least they were not complaining formally. Interestingly, the men at Cammell Laird who were the comparators were not only in the same union as Miss Hayward but actively supported her. This may not always be the prevailing mood - yet not only may these cases be brought, they may win. Among other factors secretaries often have better qualifications than their supposed superiors.

Relativities and differentials will be upset. Negotiated agreements will be at risk - for the better. Corns will be trodden on, sensitivities will be on show and relative statuses will be at risk; it is a far reaching law.

The slowest

Job evaluations will have to change; pre-emptively or otherwise and personnel departments will have to be on their toes. But it is not all simple. A woman who wins, has to have the same terms and conditions as the man with whom she has compared herself. This may include a car, golf club membership, and various other perks, some of which the woman may not want.

And to win, if the woman is wise, she will pick the man with the qualifications and the responsibilities that she thinks she can match but who is the worst or the slowest at his job because it is an individual comparison not an objective one that is the basis of this new law.

Newsround

● **Bob Crave** writes: Career-minded women determined to get ahead in a man's world are advised by a leading researcher at the Management College, Henley, not to reveal their true feelings when being interviewed by male recruiters. "True confessions are not the name of the game", explained Sheila Rothwell, director of Henley's Occupational Policy Studies. "Women should tell interviewers what they want to hear. Recruiters tend to hear that a woman does not personally experience discrimination. It may be possible to coach or joke the interviewer into expressing, in non-sexist terms, what he really needs to know about her career, stability and willingness to travel".

According to Henley, advice to interviewers not to ask women questions about their marriage and family plans, regularly received from the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Civil Service Joint Review Group and various trade unions, is rarely heeded. Sheila Rothwell feels that the preferred image for women job applicants is to be "groomed, attractive, feminine, but not too overtly sexy or flamboyant". Whether filling in application forms or responding to interview questions, she advises women to make a particular effort to be positive and to emphasise their achievements, particularly in those

areas in which they are most likely to be negatively stereotyped. "Women need practice to avoid beginning their sentences in a negative manner", she commented.

To aid and encourage women to develop their management careers, Henley offers nine scholarships annually to female applicants to its prestigious, male-dominated Policy Studies management course or to its modular MBA degree programme. These scholarships are designed to help women resume their business or management careers after bringing up a family, or to aid women unable to progress further due to lack of educational opportunity. Further details are available from the Management College, Greenlands, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 3AU.

● The information currently available to executives has been further boosted by the publication of a new business journal directly catering to the needs of executives posted abroad. The journal, *The Corporate Explorer*, is published monthly, and contains bulletins on overseas inflation statistics and exchange rates, jobs, investment, property movements and the arts. Special features in the first two issues included a personal view of China by Edward Heath, and a special report on France by John Aiden, the author of *France in the*

1980s. An annual subscription costs £45, and further details are available from the publisher, DCR Enterprises, 9 Orme Court, London W2 4RL (Tel 01-221 6709).

● People who are looking for a career change through redundancy, absence from work, necessity or personal choice, may be interested in a new series of guides published this year by the Careers and Occupational Information Centre (COIC). The books cover education and training opportunities, analysis of the job market and constraints imposed by individual circumstances. They include self-analysis exercises and contain case studies of people who have changed their careers and found greater personal satisfaction in their new jobs.

The most wide-reaching of the guides, *What Else Can You Do?* is aimed at anyone who has had several years of experience in employment. Other books in the *What Else...* series include guides specifically aimed at housewives, secretaries, nurses and teachers. Each guide costs £2.50 and is available from book sellers or by sending a cheque or postal order for £3 (inc p & p), made payable to the Manpower Services Commission, to Payworth Industries, Payworth Everard, Cambridge CB3 8RG.

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Based Central London. Relocation expenses considered. Contact us immediately for application form (quote ref. 6140/T and enclose s.a.e.): BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA, Tel. 01-927 575.

Please note completed application forms must be returned by Wednesday, December 19th.

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PUBLICATIONS

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The London Ecology Centre is now venture aimed at providing a focus for ecological activities in London. Opening early in 1985, it will be a base for a wide variety of organisations working in the ecological field, and a venue for exhibitions, meetings and public events. The Centre will be run by a newly formed Trust with premises near Covent Garden and King's Cross.

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To be responsible for implementing the Trust's policies and for the day-to-day management of the Centre including:
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- Fundraising.
- Administration and financial control.
- Management of the Trust's properties, including liaison with resident groups.
This is a major post requiring drive and enthusiasm combined with sound managerial experience, good communication skills and a commitment to environmental work. Experience of running a voluntary organisation in this field would be an advantage.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Salary: £8,340 pa incl

To assist the Manager in the efficient day-to-day running of the Centre including:
- Receptionist duties: providing information and advice to visitors.
- Organising meetings, exhibitions and other events presented by the Trust.
- Providing secretarial, administrative and financial assistance to the Manager.
- Servicing meetings of the Trust.
Organisational and administrative abilities are essential. The post requires enthusiasm and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of voluntary organisations and with the public. Typing skills essential and word processing an advantage.

Applications with full CV to Mrs V C Burridge, World Wildlife Fund, 11-13 Octagon Road, Goshalway, Surrey, from whom further details may be obtained. Closing date: 31 December, 1984.

